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Colorado Springs Independent

# The Year 2012 In Pictures

READERS *help* CAPTURE OUR HIGHS AND LOWS

*page 19*

Tanya Shaw

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E-MAIL US:

| | |
|---|---|
| Letters | letters@csindy.com |
| Editor-in-Chief | kirk@csindy.com |
| Executive Editor | routon@csindy.com |
| CEO/Business Office | fran@csindy.com |
| General Manager | carrie@csindy.com |
| Publisher | jweiss@csindy.com |
| Display Advertising | fran@csindy.com |
| Classified Dept. | classified@csindy.com |
| Distribution | tim@csindy.com |
| Art Director | kcc@csindy.com |
| Listings | listings@csindy.com |

Lanny: A *Django Unchained* extra?

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## News: Nickel and doomed

Allegedly, it was constructed with care. But, upon contact with the courts, Colorado Springs' downtown solicitation ban sank like the Titanic.

It seems there was an oversight — or a few oversights — that went unnoticed for a long time.

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## Film: Race to the top

When Quentin Tarantino is good, he's downright genius.

How is it that Tarantino can tell a story in *Django Unchained* that could not be more about race and make it feel post-racial? Django is one of the juiciest, most complex, most intriguing, most human heroes that pulp fiction has ever seen.

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## AudioFile: Twelve from '12

Warning: The following 2012 countdown does *not* contain Mumford & Sons' "I Will Wait" or Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe." And it *definitely* doesn't include PSY's "Gangnam Style," which means you can't blame us for Uncle Bob's disconcerting rendition of the Horse Dance at that next wedding reception.

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**On the Cover**
Design by graphic designer Tanya Shaw.

## UpComing

With less than one week left in the *Indy*'s annual **Give! Campaign**, you still have time, albeit not much, to support one or more of the 58 participating nonprofits. You'll join more than 5,000 local community members who have already made their contributions this year.

Visit indygive.com today — or no later than midnight, Dec. 31 — and "give where you live."

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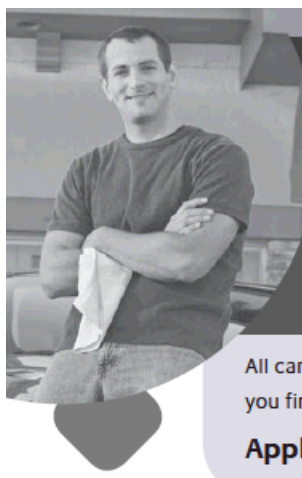
# SliceOfLife

Matthew Schniper

*Between Wilkerson Pass and the tiny town of Hartsel, packs of pronghorn appear by the roadside, sometimes ghostily emerging from a snowy fog.*

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# Letters

Editor, 235 S. Nevada Ave., CS, CO 80903 • e-mail: letters@csindy.com

***If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.***

## Not funny

Santa in a gas mask. Really? How could you be so insensitive to print that as your Xmas cover (Dec. 19), after the most horrific shooting in United States history?

Perhaps it was a tongue-in-cheek gesture. Sorry, no room for that with my heart in my throat.

***— Mary Seman***
***Colorado Springs***

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**'This is a matter of maximizing what they have.'**

*— Ridgway-based dZi Foundation's Jim Nowak, to the* Denver Post*, on revitalizing remote Nepalese villages by cleaning up sanitation issues and using diluted human urine to grow more diverse and abundent crops.*

## It was poor judgment

The events at Sandy Hook rest totally and solely with Nancy Lanza. In spite of the fact that she knew her son was unstable, she clearly made no effort to secure those weapons. The pity of it is that she didn't live to be charged with anything and everything the law would allow. She got off too easily and left everyone else to suffer and pay the price for her negligence and ignorance.

***— Mimi Vacher***
***Colorado Springs***

## Misplaced blame

Dr. James Dobson, with his far right Christian extremism has finally hit the lowest of the low. This "man of God," as he calls himself, followed former presidential candidate Mike Huckabee and Bryan Fischer for the American Family Association, laying the blame for the massacre in Newtown, Conn., squarely on the victims by proclaiming that the reason for the senseless killing was because of God being kicked out of schools.

Twenty-seven people, including 20 children, were killed needlessly because a young man who was mentally disturbed and, untreated, had access to guns and plenty of ammo.

But rather than put the blame where it belongs — on the crazed man who pulled the trigger — it is because we no longer force their version of God onto all children whether they are Christian or not. It wasn't because we neglect those with mental health problems in this country, but rather that we allow gays to live with their families.

It is not the fault of lax gun laws that allowed there to be multiple large-capacity magazines within easy reach, so the killer could put seven to 11 holes into each 6- and 7-year-old without stopping.

No, it is because we allow women to make a legal medical choice.

If the Christian God was like Dr. Dobson and his buddies espouse, he would be a very selfish and petty deity.

Perhaps Dobson and his ilk should stop telling us what God thinks, and start looking into their own prejudice and lack of empathy for the children and the parents who were left behind.

***— Arval Becker***
***Colorado Springs***

## Tragedies happen

The school incident was a horrible thing. But to blame it on the National Rifle Association is a long shot.

I have met many members in my travels. (I do not belong.) NRA members lock up their guns, take lessons, and teach their children how to handle their guns. They explain to never point a gun at another person, thinking it is not loaded. Most are law-abiding people paying taxes, looking after the care of our country's parks and hunting areas. They believe in the Constitution and our right to bear arms.

Now for statistics: How many children are killed in a year by DUI incidents? Do we take all the booze away from everyone?

How many children are abused by parents in a year? Do we take all the children away from the parents?

The school shootings were a bad thing, but we live in a free country and tragedies will happen. We have to live with it and let the parents handle the results within their own lives.

The government can help in some ways, but the best way is to just let it get off the news. We had these problems long before the news traveled, and we handled it well within the community and family. But of course, we used to sit at the dinner table as a family and discuss the day's problems. Also in those days, one person could get a job and support the family so one of them could be home to keep an eye on their children.

Stop trying to look for special people to blame, and realize tragedy will happen.

***— Rodney E. Hammond***
***Colorado Springs***

## Ending the affair

It's way past time for us to continue indulging in the fantasy that it's OK to have automatic weapons in general circulation. Our love affair with guns has to end. The ultimate goal must be to make all automatic weapons illegal.

We must not let those beautiful little children of Newtown, Conn., die in vain. To honor them and countless others who have been so cruelly massacred at the hands of armed and untreated mentally ill persons, we need to ban all assault weapons immediately. This is a necessary beginning for the healing of Americans and shocked people around the world who are speaking out, loud and clear. It has to happen now, regardless of political posturing. No gun-advocate argument suffices. If we are all locked and loaded, even more people will be killed.

We also need to address the mental health crisis in America as well as violent video games that the killer, Adam Lanza, watched excessively. If needed, I hope that President Obama will use his executive powers to their fullest extent.

***— Sharlene White***
***Oceanside, Calif.***

## Broken trust

We lost lives. We lost property. And now we appear to also have lost the sense of security we wrongly thought we had, that we would be adequately protected in a disaster situation. Pam Zubeck's thorough report on the Waldo Canyon Fire ("Misfire," Cover Story, Dec. 12) exposed a huge flaw in our city's emergency preparedness.

I will never criticize the brave firefighters and other emergency responders who risked their lives trying to save the lives and property of others, but I am deeply concerned to know we apparently had no coordinated disaster response plan — and six months after the fire, we still do not have a plan to follow when the next fire occurs.

During my own City Council tenure more than a decade ago, I recall a presentation by then Fire Chief Manuel Navarro, who was fresh from the devastating wildland fires in Oakland, Calif. Chief Navarro advised Council that a situation like the Oakland fires was imminent in Colorado Springs; it was not a matter of "if" it would happen here, but "when."

City administration, the mayor and Council can pat themselves on the back for a job well done with the way Waldo was handled. We put on a very convincing show for the rest of the country that we were indeed prepared. Based on the *Indy*'s account, there is ample room for improvement.

Citizens, especially those residing in the hillside and west side neighborhoods of Council Districts 1, 3 and 5, should ask Council candidates at every forum between now and the city elections in April about their plans to push for a third-party review and how they will appreciably improve our city's emergency preparedness.

Actually, these are questions that should be asked of city leaders right now. The public has a right to know.

***— Bill Guman***
***Colorado Springs***

## Full transparency

I find it extremely interesting that Mayor Bach consistently pushes Colorado Springs Utilities on every issue, wanting more and more so-called transparency about all that the util-

## LongStoryShort

Author and photographer Eudora Welty once said, "A good snapshot stops a moment from running away."

Many of the moments of 2012, especially those connected to the Waldo Canyon Fire, aren't going anywhere. Those of us who lived through it can close our eyes and still see the orange-red shooting flames, the hovering pyrocumulus cloud, the rubble of the devastated homes.

Even so, the majority of the photos we received from the community for our 2012 Year in Pictures project were understandably related. And the images are big and bold and take us right back to those smoke-laden, fear-filled days (see feature on p. 19).

But as we dug a little deeper, we were reminded of other bits of 2012 too: USA Pro Cycling Challenge riders screaming at unbelievable speeds down Tejon Street with thousands watching; President Obama speaking at Colorado College as part of his re-election tour; costumed community members supporting local fundraisers.

The *Indy*'s biz consists heavily of words. We've got reporters who spend their days researching and interviewing. Columnists who put their own touch on the issues at large. Editors who help with consistency and style. And you, our readers, who take what we do and share it. Words are important to our everyday lives.

But sometimes, all our roles aside, it truly is a picture that captures a little slice of life and says everything without saying anything at all.

***— Kirsten Akens***

ity does, yet he himself brushes aside requests by different groups for transparency when it comes to the city's response to the Waldo Canyon Fire.

Is there something about the way the city responded that he doesn't want the public to know about?

Quid pro quo, Mr. Mayor.

***— Nancy Thomas***
***Falcon***

## Improvement needed

Thank you, and kudos to Pam Zubeck for a very thorough and detailed article. The fire was an incredible experience to have gone through. While my family and I live in the southeast part of town, our minds and hearts were very much focused on those fighting the fire and those residents being directly affected.

I hope that those in decision-making capacities read it closely and examine the parts that they contributed directly to, so that improvements can be implemented before the next "fire event," which like most residents I believe is a matter of "when" rather than "if."

Keep up the good reporting! Thanks again for the efforts!

***— Christian Jensen***
***Colorado Springs***

## Crisis management

Wow! Comprehensive, professional, exemplary body of work! The narrative of the initial "Misfire" article was all about who, what, where, when and why. The question that jumps off the page and needs to be asked: What might have changed if the city had relegated control to the feds? Another question that will never be answered: How much influence did Cedar Heights have over Mountain Shadows?

But the real piece of work was the article "Men in the 'box'" — that account was more revealing, outlining that even with three days of warning, the city failed to make critical contingency plans for a worst-case scenario, and further, how close it was that the fire went from touching the curb alongside Centennial to going all the way to I-25.

This kind of connects with some of the insights in the new *Plutocrats* book, which states that when dynamic or crisis situations happen, most management types merely work faster instead of seeing that the situation has totally changed and radical new models must be employed. [Battalion Chief Jim] Schanel seemed to come to the fore on that. As for Bach and Co. ... they remind me of the legend of Nero and the Great Rome Fire, holding a press conference more than an hour after the fire had breached Queens Canyon. The only thing missing was the lyre and costume.

As global climate change grows, we will need to look at what was learned in this episode and apply it to future events, regardless of the political considerations. It seems that Bach and Co. are reminding the community of another fable about ostriches and sand while displaying their plumage.

***— Bob Nemanich***
***Colorado Springs***

## Whack, hack, frack

Call me crazy (get in line!), but as a poet, I am concerned about and opposed to fracking, simply because of the sound of the word. Frack: Hear it roar!

Onomatopoetically (poetic license), it is *really* bad news. Consider thwack, smack, wrack, whack, hack, attack, true rhymes, and some off-rhymes like wreck, deck, slap, crap, break, lock, lack, reek, and another four-letter one I'll not mention.

Of course, counter-examples abound. I am aware of that. But this should help my case somewhat: dailywritingtips.com/100-beautiful-and-ugly-words.

I am, incidentally and non-incidentally, concerned about the environment: the astounding beauty that surrounds us here in Colorado, and which perhaps no combination of words could ever quite capture.

***— Julianza Shavin***
***Colorado Springs***

## Unconscious driver

To the woman in the SUV taking her child to daycare this morning:

I saw you while I was walking the dog this morning. I saw your child right next to you. I'm not sure how, but I think it involved standing on the center console. I clearly saw your eyes focused firmly on your rear-view mirror, which was appropriate as you were putting on lipstick and I assume you wanted to make sure you were coloring inside the lines.

You didn't see me or my dog that was straining against the leash, wanting to chase the deer that you also didn't see. Luckily for all involved, the deer decided to bound off up the hill instead of across the street. Based on my experience, it was about a 50/50 chance the deer would go in either direction.

I'm not one of those safety freaks, and I really don't care what you do with your car as long as it never comes in contact with me or my car. But I do have one piece of advice: When you drive — drive! Don't put on lipstick, answer your cell phone, text your best friend, eat your breakfast, shave your legs, or do whatever other cockamamie things people dream up to occupy their time while piloting 4,000 pounds of steel down public roads. All of these things can either be done before leaving or after arriving (assuming you do arrive) at your destination.

Just my two cents' worth ...

***— Niel Powers***
***Colorado Springs***

## The roaches will survive

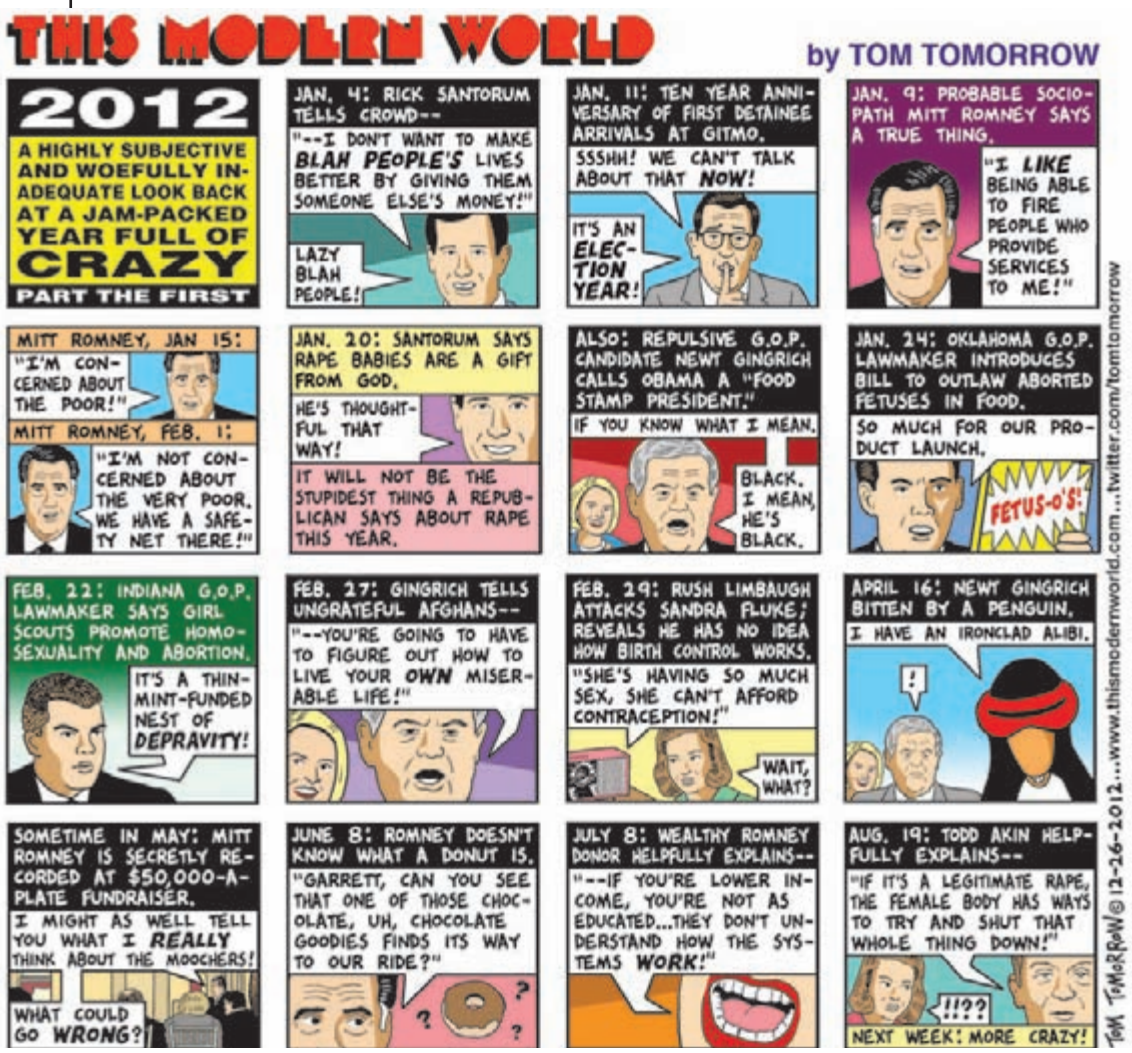
I knew the world wouldn't come to an end if we legalized marijuana.

***— Steve Suhre***
***Colorado Springs***

## Great baby name?

The name least or most likely given to a 2013 New Year's baby — Cliff.

***— Dave Ruetschilling***
***Colorado Springs***


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
2012
A HIGHLY SUBJECTIVE AND WOEFULLY INADEQUATE LOOK BACK AT A JAM-PACKED YEAR FULL OF CRAZY
PART THE FIRST
JAN. 4: RICK SANTORUM TELLS CROWD--
"--I DON'T WANT TO MAKE BLAH PEOPLE'S LIVES BETTER BY GIVING THEM SOMEONE ELSE'S MONEY!"
LAZY BLAH PEOPLE!
JAN. 11: TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST DETAINEE ARRIVALS AT GITMO.
SSSHH! WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT THAT NOW!
IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR!
JAN. 9: PROBABLE SOCIOPATH MITT ROMNEY SAYS A TRUE THING.
"I LIKE BEING ABLE TO FIRE PEOPLE WHO PROVIDE SERVICES TO ME!"
MITT ROMNEY, JAN 15:
"I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE POOR!"
MITT ROMNEY, FEB. 1:
"I'M NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE VERY POOR. WE HAVE A SAFETY NET THERE!"
JAN. 20: SANTORUM SAYS RAPE BABIES ARE A GIFT FROM GOD.
HE'S THOUGHTFUL THAT WAY!
IT WILL NOT BE THE STUPIDEST THING A REPUBLICAN SAYS ABOUT RAPE THIS YEAR.
ALSO: REPULSIVE G.O.P. CANDIDATE NEWT GINGRICH CALLS OBAMA A "FOOD STAMP PRESIDENT."
IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
BLACK. I MEAN, HE'S BLACK.
JAN. 24: OKLAHOMA G.O.P. LAWMAKER INTRODUCES BILL TO OUTLAW ABORTED FETUSES IN FOOD.
SO MUCH FOR OUR PRODUCT LAUNCH.
FETUS-O'S!
FEB. 22: INDIANA G.O.P. LAWMAKER SAYS GIRL SCOUTS PROMOTE HOMOSEXUALITY AND ABORTION.
IT'S A THIN-MINT-FUNDED NEST OF DEPRAVITY!
FEB. 27: GINGRICH TELLS UNGRATEFUL AFGHANS--
"--YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO LIVE YOUR OWN MISERABLE LIFE!"
FEB. 29: RUSH LIMBAUGH ATTACKS SANDRA FLUKE; REVEALS HE HAS NO IDEA HOW BIRTH CONTROL WORKS.
"SHE'S HAVING SO MUCH SEX, SHE CAN'T AFFORD CONTRACEPTION!"
WAIT, WHAT?
APRIL 16: NEWT GINGRICH BITTEN BY A PENGUIN.
I HAVE AN IRONCLAD ALIBI.
!
SOMETIME IN MAY: MITT ROMNEY IS SECRETLY RECORDED AT $50,000-A-PLATE FUNDRAISER.
I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU WHAT I REALLY THINK ABOUT THE MOOCHERS!
WHAT COULD GO WRONG?
JUNE 8: ROMNEY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT A DONUT IS.
"GARRETT, CAN YOU SEE THAT ONE OF THOSE CHOCOLATE, UH, CHOCOLATE GOODIES FINDS ITS WAY TO OUR RIDE?"
JULY 8: WEALTHY ROMNEY DONOR HELPFULLY EXPLAINS--
"--IF YOU'RE LOWER INCOME, YOU'RE NOT AS EDUCATED...THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THE SYSTEMS WORK!"
AUG. 19: TODD AKIN HELPFULLY EXPLAINS--
"IF IT'S A LEGITIMATE RAPE, THE FEMALE BODY HAS WAYS TO TRY AND SHUT THAT WHOLE THING DOWN!"
!!??
NEXT WEEK: MORE CRAZY!
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# GetInvolved

## New year, new day

Register for a 5K walk/run or 10K run that raise money for El Paso County Search & Rescue. Free kids races will also be part of the schedule.

**35th Annual Rescue Run**
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. (race-day registration, 8:30 a.m.)
Palmer Park, meet at the Academy Boulevard/Maizeland Road entrance, $20-$25
Contact: pprrun.org/events/RescueRun/main.htm

## Help, to go

Sign up to learn more about this organization, which delivers free, nutritious meals to those living with life-threatening illnesses. Participants will learn the history of the organization and details about different volunteer positions. Apply online for more information.

**Project Angel Heart orientation**
Saturday, Jan. 5, 11 a.m.
Contact: projectangelheart.org

## Volunteer resolution?

Sign up for one of the 90-plus volunteer opportunities offered by this hospice, which needs help in various departments: assisting office staff, providing alternative therapies to patients (such as pet, touch and music therapy), supporting grieving family members and more. Go online or call for more information.

**Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care volunteer opportunities**
Contact: 633-3400, pikespeakhospice.org/volunteer

*For more civic and volunteer opportunities, see Listings on p. 38.*

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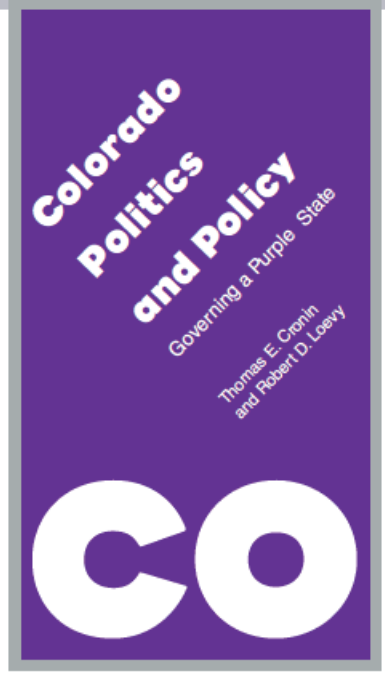

**Thomas E. Cronin** is the McHugh Professor of American Government and Leadership at Colorado College. He is the author or editor of more than a dozen books, including his latest, *Leadership Matters.*

**Robert D. Loevy** is Professor of Political Science Emeritus at Colorado College. He is the author or editor of a dozen books, including, *Confessions of a Reapportionment Commissioner.*

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# CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

## Looking into the city's future

Local government. County commissioners. City Council. Those are grim, dispiriting phrases. Think of last Wednesday's weather — wind, blowing snow, slate-gray sky, nothing to be cheerful about.

Now think of the sour, depressed reporters who must trudge to meetings, read useless media releases, talk to cheerfully evasive bureaucrats, and wearily kowtow to self-important pols. For us, it's always February.

It might be easier if Mayor **Steve Bach** were really the **Vladimir Putin** of Colorado Springs, a man whose slightest whim was law, and whose black-clad secret police would hustle off dissident reporters to a life of exile in the Society Islands. We could spend our time lounging on the beach, drinking bad island rum and reminiscing about fighting City Hall.

Too bad for us — we're stuck here, just as Bach is. The mayor has plenty of power, except when he doesn't. He can't do much without Council's assent and he's hemmed in by laws, regulations and interlocking bureaucracies (city, county, state, federal) that would have baffled **Franz Kafka**.

**There are no safe seats and no predictable outcomes.**

If Kafka were alive, he'd be a great hire for hizzoner, especially since 2013 promises to be an eventful, interesting and contentious year. He'd feel as does a kayaker on a wild river, when the roar and crash of the rapids are just around the bend.

• First rapid: oil and gas regulations, fracking, Banning Lewis Ranch's future. This is a classic Class III run (waves numerous, high, irregular; rocks; eddies; rapids with passages clear though narrow, requiring expertise in maneuvering). Despite Councilor **Tim Leigh**'s sudden change of heart, whereby he jumped from ardent supporter to fierce opponent of proposed regulations, Council likely will pass them.

The question is whether Bach and Council can work together to craft an agreement with Ultra Petroleum. If Ultra wants to drill, it'll need water and a decent relationship with the city. What can the city get in return? More parks, trails and protected open space? If they ask for nothing and give nothing, they'll get nothing.

• Second rapid: Council elections, Class IV (long rapids; waves high, irregular; dangerous rocks; boiling eddies; best passages difficult to scout; powerful and precise maneuvering required). Six of nine Council seats will be up for grabs, creating nasty dilemmas for the mayor. He'd like a more reasonable (read: compliant) group, but should he endorse a mayoral slate?

Probably not — it didn't work for **Douglas Bruce** in 2011. Winning candidates usually portray themselves as independent thinkers devoted to their constituencies. Bach may simply let nature take its course — aided ever so slightly by the Housing and Building Association and the Pikes Peak Association of Realtors. There are no safe seats, no sure winners and no predictable outcomes.

• Third rapid: Colorado Springs Utilities / Martin Drake Power Plant, Class IV. The war over Drake and the cost of the NeuStream pollution control system has only just begun. We'll find out in 2013 whether the system can scale up from 20 megawatts to 100 megawatts, whether costs have been properly accounted for, whether the original contract was properly and legally executed, and whether it makes economic sense to keep a downtown, coal-fired plant puffing away for another three decades. If you think Bach, Council, Utilities and Dave Neumann are already at war, you ain't seen nuthin' yet. The first months of World War II were called the "sitzkrieg" (sitting war). As history tells us, the lull didn't last.

• Fourth rapid: Pension reform, Class V (exceedingly difficult, long and violent rapids, following each other almost without interruption; riverbed extremely obstructed; big drops; violent current; very steep gradient; close study essential). Unsustainable government means costs are increasing faster than revenues. The city's generous pensions to retirees, particularly in public safety, aren't affordable without big annual revenue increases.

Council and Bach have three options: Ask voters to dramatically increase taxes, drastically reduce benefits, or pray for a rip-roaring boom. The third option has been our default choice for decades, but our peerless leaders have to determine their strategy.

After the fourth rapid, who knows? We might see another Waldo Canyon Fire, an attempted sale of Garden of the Gods Park to **Phil Anschutz**, oil and gas drilling on the summit of Pikes Peak, or the closure of Fort Carson. Anything can happen on a wild river.

*— hazlehurst@csindy.com*

# StreetSmarts

## Up the down staircase

Multiple mass shootings, fiscal cliffs, the Waldo Canyon Fire, a divisive presidential election, an utterly dysfunctional Congress — 2012 has been a momentous, roller-coaster year. Here's hoping for an upswing in 2013.

***Matthew Crawford*** from the ***near north end*** is a ***jeweler***

**How did 2012 stack up for you, personally?** It was a raging pain in the ass. A lot of things came to a head financially that I'd been trying to get a handle on for a while. It'll soon be behind me, though.

**Rate 2012 for the U.S. at large.** The mass shootings were tragic, and all the B.S. that goes with an election year was divisive, but Obama's re-election was a huge win for the country.

**What'll be your most enduring image of 2012?** Seeing the absolute grandeur of the redwoods — a breathtaking experience that'll stick with me for life.

**What was your best moment of the year?** Greeting my girlfriend at the airport in Philadelphia when she returned after eight months in Ireland.

**What's the biggest lesson for Colorado Springs to take into 2013?** Don't let people from Castle Rock decide our logo.

***Sarah Billerbeck*** from ***Lakewood*** is a ***K-through-8 music teacher***

**Rate 2012 for you, personally.** It was a good year watching my three wonderful kids growing up, and I had a lot of success in my teaching.

**How did 2012 stack up for the U.S.?** The economy is picking up, and I was very happy to see Obama re-elected.

**What from this past year would you do differently, if you could?** Spend less time worrying and being busy, and more time with my family.

**What was your peak moment of 2012?** Going on a "Learn to be a pirate" cruise with my kids in Baltimore.

**What's the biggest lesson our state can take into 2013?** Look more carefully into the effect of oil and gas development.

***Jill Spangenberg*** from ***Falcon*** is a ***high school teacher***

**What kind of year was 2012 for you?** It was a year of spiritual growth. I had to go deep inside myself and not count on the outside world. I'd give it 8 out of 10.

**How did we fare in 2012 as a country?** The Republican party did everything in its power to destroy 2012. It's fabulous that Obama was re-elected.

**What's likely to be your most enduring memory of 2012?** My brother living with me for 14 months.

**What's the biggest lesson Colorado Springs can take into 2013?** Obama won the election; get with what the people want, not what the right-wing wants.

***— Bob Campbell***

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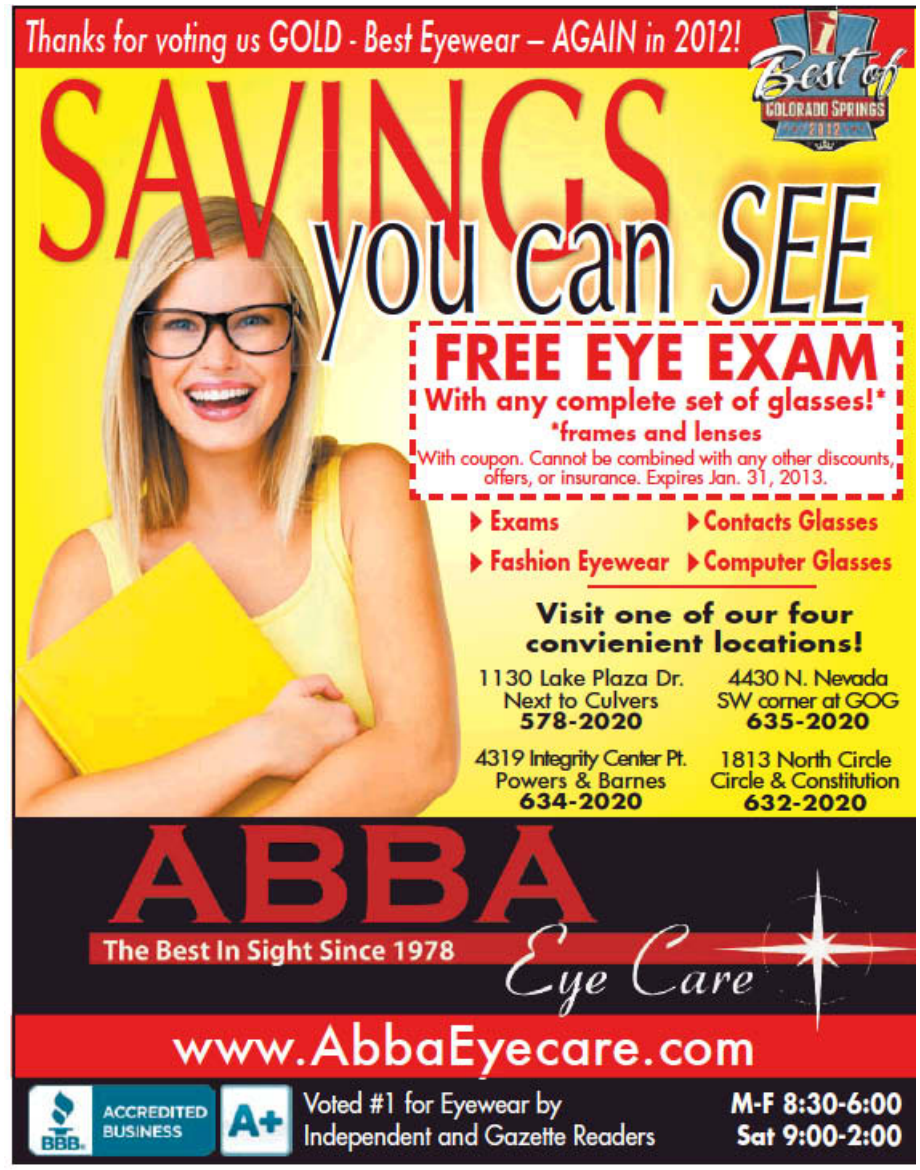
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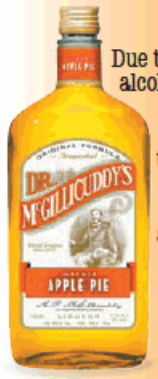


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# LowDown

By Jim Hightower

## The true American philosophy

This special day got me to thinking about America's spirit of giving, and I don't mean this overdone business of Christmas gifts. I mean our true spirit of giving — giving of ourselves.

Yes, we are a country of rugged individualists, yet there's also a deep, community-minded streak in each of us. We're a people who believe in the notion that we're all in this together, that we can make our individual lives better by contributing to the common good.

The establishment media pays little attention to grassroots generosity, focusing instead on the occasional showy donation by what it calls "philanthropists" — big tycoons who give a little piece of their billions to some university or museum in exchange for getting a building named after them.But in my mind, the real philanthropists are the millions of ordinary folks who have precious little money to give, but consistently give of themselves, and do it without demanding that their name be engraved on a granite wall.

**We're a people who believe in the notion that we're all in this together.**

My own Daddy, rest his soul, was a fine example of this. With half a dozen other guys in Denison, Texas he started the Little League baseball program, volunteering to build the park, sponsor and coach the teams, run the squawking PA system, etc., etc.

Even after I graduated from Little League, Daddy stayed working at it, because his involvement was not merely for his kids, but for all.

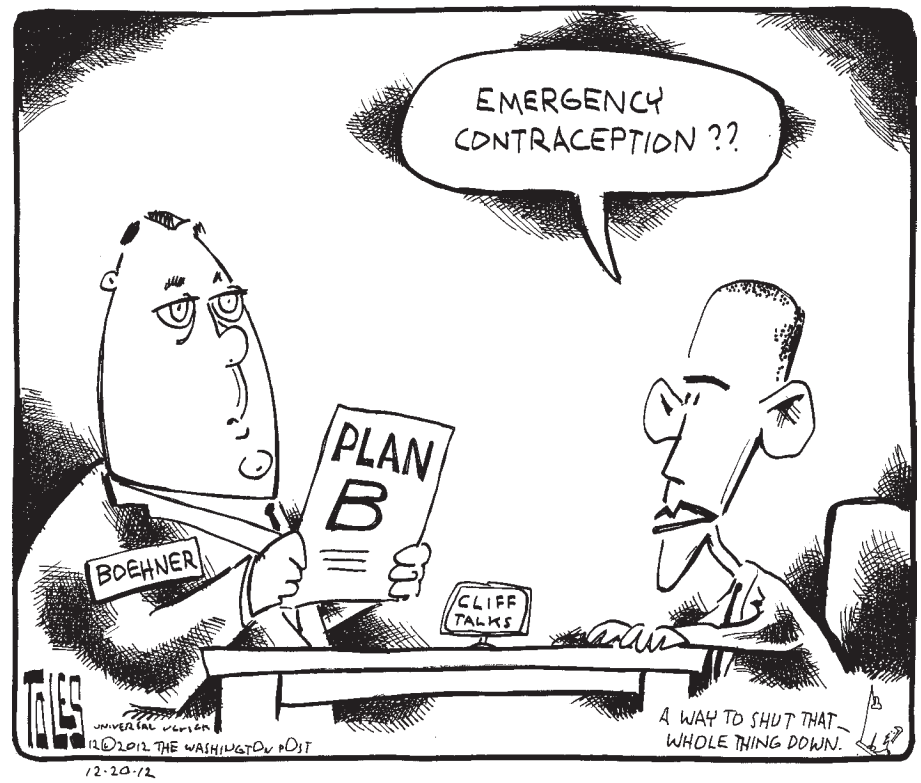
He felt the same way about being taxed to build a public library in town. I don't recall him ever going in that building, much less checking out a book, but he wanted it to be there for the community and he was happy to pay his part.

Not that he was a do-good liberal, for God's sake — indeed, he called himself a conservative.

My Daddy didn't even know he had a political philosophy, but he did, and it's the best I've ever heard. He would often say to me, "Everybody does better when everybody does better."

If only our leaders in Washington and on Wall Street would begin practicing this true American philosophy.

*Jim Hightower is the best-selling author of* **Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go With the Flow***, on sale now from Wiley Publishing. For more information, visit jimhightower.com.*



# Between the Lines

By Ralph Routon

## Manitou: sensibly weird

When someone mentions Manitou Springs, restaurants and bars aside, what's the first thing that comes to mind? Though the "Keep Manitou Weird" slogan lives on, it might be the Emma Crawford Coffin Races, Craft Lager Beer Fest or Carnivale.

If you're into running, you'd say the Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon.

In this new century, Manitou has become better known for its annual events — those escapes from our everyday lives, chances to share in festivals, parades and competitions that don't happen anywhere else. You know, like the Great Fruitcake Toss, with an interesting rule change for the 2013 event coming up on Jan. 12: "You may use any type of mechanical or electric compressor to charge your pneumatic device, EXCEPT GASOLINE POWERED."

Yes, Manitou takes its events seriously. But that doesn't mean all of them are equal, which has created some frayed feelings. For years, the city subsidized many events — waiving or reducing fees, and providing city police services free of charge. But in tougher times, that became a problem.

**In tough times, subsidizing events became a problem.**

"When I came on the Council in 2009, my first meeting was on the budget," Mayor Pro-Tem **Matt Carpenter** recalls. "We were cutting employee benefits, yet we had waived $18,000 in fees."

That eventually led to a new policy of charging fees and billing for city services such as traffic control, barricades and police working extra hours. Exceptions no longer come as easily. Also, if the city already gives money to an organization such as Manitou's Chamber of Commerce, now known as iManitou, there is no waiver.

That's where the differing opinions come in. Recently a letter circulated from iManitou, saying the Coffin Races need outside support because the bill from the city has risen from about $1,200 two years ago to $4,600 in 2012.

Carpenter says organizers might look first at their decreasing sponsorships and other revenue.

"I suggested that they begin charging entry fees this year, which they did [to $50 a team]," Carpenter said, "and they still filled their quota of entries. If they would just make that $100 a team, or $20 a person, they wouldn't have to worry about anything. I don't see any problem with charging the participants. And a number of teams are sponsored, so that could be just part of the deal."

Manitou Mayor **Marc Snyder** still believes in helping some events, but admits he's "in the minority." He prefers to make exceptions for such privately run, shoestring-budget events as the Carnivale parade and also the best first-time ideas trying to get off the ground.

"We know how many thousands of people Carnivale brings to Manitou on a Saturday in the winter [Feb. 9 in 2013]," Snyder says. "Those people spend money and it helps the town's economy during a slow time, so why not give them a break?"

**Marcy Morrison**, former mayor and now iManitou interim CEO, has been on both sides. On Manitou's Council, she felt more events should pay their way. Now, from iManitou's perspective, "I see it in a different light ... but it's hard to come to some kind of middle ground. For a little town like us, every event takes a lot of work and coordination."

If there's a crusader in all this, it has to be Carpenter, also the driving force (and 18-time winner) of the Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon. Carpenter has helped build that race organization to where it pays all of its fees and bills every year — then goes the extra mile, like last year, giving $4,000 more to Manitou's fire department and the Iron Mountain open-space effort.

Of course, not every event has that kind of global reputation, either.

"I think all of Manitou's events are special, but Marcy's the one who convinced me that they all should pay their way," Carpenter says. "I just think events should be self-sustainable."

So we head into 2013 with the usual attractions filling Manitou's calendar, from the Great Fruitcake Toss through the beer, wine and arts/crafts festivals to the Coffin Races, and don't forget the ice cream social, pancake breakfast or Carnivale's gumbo cookoff.

You need to know, however, none of them will make anybody rich.

Fulfilled, yes. Wealthy, no.

*— routon@csindy.com*

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# News

## Nickel and doomed

### Why the wheels came off the city's year-long campaign for a downtown panhandling ban

**By J. Adrian Stanley**

Allegedly, it was constructed with care. But upon contact with the courts, Colorado Springs' downtown solicitation ban sank like the Titanic.

It seems there was an oversight — or a few oversights — that went unnoticed for a long time.

Bradley Flora

*A Federal District Court judge agreed with local protesters.*

Consider: It's been a year since an *Independent* news story ("Not in our downtown," Dec. 29, 2011) revealed that the city legal department was working on a panhandling ban for the core downtown area. City Council proceeded to discuss the ban with City Attorney Chris Melcher exhaustively before approving it, 8-1.

Melcher had tirelessly advocated for the law he crafted, publicly reassuring Councilors that the legislation could withstand an expected court challenge from the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado. For one thing, Melcher said, his ban was copied from a Florida law OK'd by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He also said the law met a legal mandate for "content neutrality," and a legal burden to be "narrowly tailored."

With a year's work, and help from the outside law firm Hogan Lovells, Melcher seemed amply prepared to face a court challenge. Two days after the ACLU filed suit Nov. 28, Melcher stated in a press release, "We remain confident that the Court will ultimately find the ordinance to be constitutional since this same type of ordinance has passed legal scrutiny in other jurisdictions, including federal courts in Florida and West Virginia."

But last week, Federal District Court Judge Marcia Krieger swiftly ruled in favor of the ACLU, granting a temporary injunction that prevents the law from being enforced until the legal challenge is resolved. Her ruling was a clear signal that she believes the law is unconstitutional. Indeed, she said as much in court, calling it "not likely to survive" a trial.

The city legal department has not said how it will respond, other than that it will confer with Council and the mayor. It could take the case to trial or appeal the judge's ruling, though both paths could be costly and daunting.

One thing is certain, however: This wasn't the home run Melcher portrayed it to be.

## For starters ...

Throughout 2012, Councilors asked Melcher to consider various rewrites of the law. Most requests were rebuffed because, Councilors were told, changing the law's wording would make it more vulnerable to court challenge. Councilor Lisa Czelatdko tells the *Indy* by e-mail that Melcher "assured Council it wouldn't be an issue to defend" his ordinance.

Melcher stuck to that story fairly late in the game. In a written response to *Indy* questions on Dec. 3, for instance, he stated, "Our ordinance is identical, word for word, with that of Ft. Lauderdale, which was upheld by the federal court of appeals over 10 years ago."

Problem is, that isn't true.

When prompted by ACLU lawyers, Melcher admitted in a court document that he hadn't copied a challenged law. While a Fort Lauderdale *beach rule* banning solicitation was challenged in the courts, Melcher actually copied a Fort Lauderdale *city ordinance* that hadn't been challenged.

"The Beach Rule is not 'almost identical' to the ordinance challenged in this case," Melcher notes in the document, "rather it simply prohibits '[s]oliciting, begging or panhandling.'"

Melcher sought to excuse the slip-up by noting that the ordinance he copied was in place at the time the beach rule was challenged. But ACLU director Mark Silverstein was quick to seize on the differences between the beach rule and the Springs' law. He noted, for instance, that half-naked beach-goers were less mobile than downtown pedestrians, and therefore less likely to be able to escape harassment. He also noted that the beach ordinance, at least in practice, didn't appear to ban signs, while the Springs ordinance did.

The judge had reason of her own to disregard the Florida ruling, calling it "cursory" and "not persuasive."

## What I meant to say was ...

Of course, when justifying limits on First Amendment rights, legal precedent is a nice thing, but it's not everything.

A judge will also focus on three main points to determine if the law is overbroad — points that Melcher often hammered in Council discussions. First, limits on free speech must be "narrowly tailored" to serve a legitimate government interest. So if the government interest is, say, "keeping citizens safe from aggressive panhandlers," a law couldn't block someone from sitting passively with a sign.

Second, the law needs to be "content neutral," meaning it must target some "secondary effects" of the speech, not the content of the speech itself. In court, Silverstein used the example of a city that only allowed adult businesses in specially zoned areas — a move upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986. Silverstein noted that Renton, Wash., was able to show that adult theaters, naughty content aside, tended to attract crime. And since the government had an interest in preventing crime, it could block those businesses in certain areas.

**Melcher admitted that he actually hadn't copied a challenged law.**

Third, there must be ample alternative channels for communication. (That said, during the court challenge the first two requirements were emphasized, as they are harder to meet.)

To keep the law narrowly tailored, Melcher's team argued that persistent solicitation was hurting the downtown economy — crucial to city stability — by scaring away customers. To achieve content neutrality, they applied the law to all solicitors, whether Salvation Army bell ringers or panhandlers.

But the city still faced stiff challenges on both points. Silverstein argued, for instance, that a host of recorded city meetings showed that city leaders and citizens really only had a problem with panhandlers, and more specifically, vocal and harassing panhandlers. Records showed the city had researched carving out exceptions to the law for both charitable solicitors and street performers.

In fact, earlier in the month, officials participated in a celebratory PR effort to announce that Salvation Army bell ringers would be able to skirt the law by soliciting on private property.

So City Councilor Merv Bennett and Bach had an uphill battle in assuring the judge that they were vexed by such charitable solicitors, and street performers. Nevertheless, on Dec. 14 Bach told reporters, "With respect to my testimony this is what I said: I said downtown solicitation of all forms is a persistent problem ... I'm talking about not just panhandling, but also charitable and religious and political solicitation."

On the issue of content neutrality, Silverstein pointed out that the city still had an exception in its law for commercial solicitation, which is considered less protected under the First Amendment than personal speech. It didn't seem right that licensed vendors could pester you to buy a hot dog downtown, but Greenpeace couldn't ask you for a donation. (Confusion also arose when the city announced that — contrary to the wording of its law — it would be legal to ask for a donation at a later date, but not immediately.)

Meanwhile, someone seeking petition signatures could still pester passersby, and a person could still hold a sign if he or she wasn't asking for money — potential breaches of content neutrality, since those actions are similarly intrusive to solicitation, with similar "secondary effects."

In the end, however, Krieger said it was narrow tailoring that called the law into question. The judge was perturbed that commercial solicitation was excepted from the ban, and she thought banning charitable solicitors, street vendors and passive panhandlers was an overreach.

As Krieger put it, "The ordinance reaches a broad range of protected speech that does not present the harms — intrusion on the convenience and comfort of pedestrians — that the ordinance seeks to prevent."

***— stanley@csindy.com***

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# Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

## D-11 talks closures

Colorado Springs School District 11 has completed its first set of public meetings in connection with a study that suggested closing several schools.

The study, from a district committee, outlines a long list of possible scenarios, including changing high school boundaries, closing Wasson High School (leaving the city's largest school district with four mainstream high schools), and closing Mann Middle School. The schools could simply close, or they could be repurposed in several ways.

Since hosting the public meetings, the district has compiled citizen input, as well as responses from staff, students and school and community groups, and used it to rank various suggestions. The most popular suggestion is reconfiguring high school boundaries; the least popular suggestion is moving Galileo Middle School to Wasson and expanding its science-based program to grades 6-12.

For more information on the study, check d11.org/utilization/Pages/default.aspx. In the coming weeks, the district will make recommendations based on feedback, then host more public meetings before sending the issue to the D-11 Board of Education. — ***JAS***

## Drake study draws crowd

The idea of studying the decommissioning of Martin Drake Power Plant must be attractive, because 96 people have applied to join a citizen task force to do just that.

Utilities Board members Lisa Czelatdko and Brandy Williams, who are heading the task force, will trim the list to 25 or fewer in coming weeks. Czelatdko says those 25 will be asked to answer several questions in writing, such as what, if any, financial interests they have in Drake or property in its vicinity. After the list is whittled, several applicants will be interviewed before the co-chairs submit their final list to the full Utilities Board for appointment, says Czelatdko, adding that she and Williams are searching for a "diverse group" of ratepayers.

She says the task force will include herself and Williams, seven ratepayers chosen from the 96 applicants, a city staff member to be chosen by Mayor Steve Bach, and Energy Officer Bruce McCormick. Task force members can expect to spend 20 hours a month for up to four months on the project. — ***PZ***

## Bike race skips Springs

Having put in for a second consecutive Stage 5 finish and third consecutive year as a host city, the local organizing committee for the USA Pro Challenge learned last week that Colorado Springs won't be part of the 2013 race.

Committee member Chris Carmichael, of Carmichael Training Systems, says he and fellow organizers were of course disappointed, but not entirely "caught off guard," as it's the "tradition of stage racing that every year the route and start and finish cities change." The Tour de France, he points out, always finishes in Paris, but follows a different route there each year.

Though Breckenridge and Aspen will be the nearest stops before the Denver finish, Carmichael believes the Springs will still enjoy an economic boost around the August event, noting that some cycling enthusiasts will visit here for, say, the new chance to bike up Pikes Peak. In 2012, race organizers claimed nearly $100 million in economic impact statewide.

"We submitted a strong bid this year and we're fortunate that we had the race for two years," says Carmichael. "I'm confident that we'll have the race back in Colorado Springs." — ***MS***

## KREL goes all-sports

Goodbye Laura Ingraham, hello Peyton Manning. On Real Radio 1580 AM, at least.

KREL-AM will switch formats to all-sports, all the time, starting Jan. 7, says Dan Cochell, owner and president of DC Enterprises, which operates Real Radio 1580. He says he's secured a franchise agreement for ESPN, and the station will be the home of BCS Championship football games. He's also working to get other licensing deals lined up for specific events.

It will be the only local station focusing entirely on sports.

"The sky is the limit," Cochell says. "We live in a sports environment. We've got a great organization, the Colorado Springs Sports Corp., and the Rocky Mountain State Games. We hope to be heavily involved in those types of programs. We're creating a talk-show radio station that centers around sports, but in life, everything is sport."

Cochell says his timing might turn out perfect, considering the Broncos could make it to the Super Bowl. — ***PZ***

## Smoke-free rentals debut

The nonprofit Greccio Housing, a major provider of low-income housing in Colorado Springs, has opened its first smoke-free apartment building.

Uintah Park Apartments, at 2525 E. Uintah St., officially re-opened Dec. 21. The idea for a smoke-free building came from Greccio development director and City Council candidate Jill Gaebler, who saw the 21-unit building as a good opportunity to offer a less toxic environment.

Gaebler worked to get funding to clean the building and replace building materials that were contaminated with smoke.

Colorado Springs has few smoke-free rental options, particularly for the poor. But smoke-free apartments are a growing national trend, as noted in our Aug. 1 cover story, "In a smoke-filled room ..." — ***JAS***

***Compiled by Matthew Schniper, J. Adrian Stanley and Pam Zubeck. For more briefs, visit csindy.com.***

# Part 3: Whatever happened to ...?

Taking one more look back at a few stories that somehow stood out in 2012

**By *Indy* staff**

In our final issue of 2012 (as in our last two issues), we're following up on a spate of stories you may remember from earlier in the year. But feel free to ask for an update on something anytime, at newsroom@csindy.com.

## Flu blues

Two Memorial Hospital employees were fired, and another three resigned, rather than acquiesce to the influenza-vaccine mandate imposed this year ("Calling the shots," Oct. 17).

With patient safety in mind, the state now requires licensed health care facilities to report on vaccinations among employees. From Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 this year, 60 percent must be inoculated. Next year, it's 75 percent, and after that, 90 percent. (The rule doesn't apply to non-licensed facilities, such as doctor, dental and chiropractic offices.)

Memorial Hospital, operated under a lease with University of Colorado Health, allows exemptions only for those with life-threatening allergies to eggs or other vaccine components, and those who acquire Guillain-Barré syndrome within six weeks of getting the vaccine. Doctor's documentation is required of both groups. (Exempted workers must wear masks when they're near patients and visitors and patient areas during flu season.)

Spokesman Brian Newsome says 1 percent of Memorial's approximately 4,000 workers documented a medical reason for bypassing the shot. "We got the compliance we were looking for, and that's recommended for the safety of our patients," he says.

A Memorial nurse who spoke angrily (and anonymously) against the policy in October gave in and got the shot, but says she's now exploring other employment options.

At Penrose Hospital and St. Francis Medical Center, says spokesman Chris Valentine, 98 percent of workers got vaccinated, and the other 2 percent qualified for exemption. No one was fired or resigned.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention acknowledges that thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative, is in some flu vaccines, but says it's safe. Others argue that it, and other vaccine components, "produce delayed reactions and long-term health consequences," as put by naturalnews.com. ***— Pam Zubeck***

## Maneuvering the market

Bobby Hill Designs

*Plans for the Downtown Market include indoor and outdoor space.*

When Vikki Walton, co-chair of the Downtown Public Market Task Force, discusses the potential impact of a culinary-driven community hub on Colorado Springs, she likens it to a single domino lined in symbolic connection with many others.

"Which one will get them all going?" she asks. "We feel maybe this is that piece."

This yet-to-be-officially-named collaboration ("Pikes Peak Market?" Side Dish, June 27) is in the vein of the Bristol Brewing Company-anchored Ivywild community space, and aims for a significance akin to Seattle's Pike Place Market: a local food mecca, group gathering and education space, and tourist attraction. But also, says Walton, a self-employed grant writer, it would be a supportive environment for small-business incubation alongside key organizations like Ranch Foods Direct, Arkansas Valley Organic Growers, Colorado Coffee Merchants and the Colorado Farm & Art Market.

In 2013, "leadership teams" will seek to finalize plans for everything from a final location — the former Crissy Fowler Lumber building at 117 W. Vermijo Ave., has not been secured — to optimal business and governance models. Walton says the market likely will take shape either as a nonprofit or L3C (low-profit limited liability company) to reflect social-enterprise interests.

Potential break-ground and opening dates are on hold until plans jell further, but Walton says to watch the group's Facebook page and website (cspublicmarket.com) for announcements, and to engage in discussion or activity. She adds, "We want this to be a community project." ***— Matthew Schniper***

## To fight another day

Haven House is still chugging, but it will need more help if it's going to survive 2013.

On May 23, we reported that the 21-year-old nonprofit, which offers free peer-to-peer counseling for people with mental illness, was facing closure ("Desperate times," News). For most of its history, Haven House received the majority of its funding from the local, multimillion-dollar mental health center now called AspenPointe. But that arrangement ended in 2010.

Director Tim Shaw, who earns about $6,000 a year, found himself scrambling to keep the tiny west side center open. He held rummage and art sales, and solicited other organizations. Nothing seemed to work until homeless advocate Steve Handen appealed to local nonprofits. Thousands in donations kept Haven open, and projects to last another six months.

But Haven still lacks ongoing resources. So Shaw is planning a sale of client art between Jan. 14 and 20: "If we can generate $9,000 that will cover us for the rest of the year," he says.

AspenPointe has also loaned Haven a professional grant writer, and Shaw is waiting to hear back on two loans that are worth a total of $1,500. Meanwhile, he's asked guests to pay for their own coffee, and ended his lease of a copy machine. (AspenPointe donated a machine to the organization to replace the rental.)

"The only thing I know to do with any budget," Shaw says, "is to reduce expenses as much as possible." ***— J. Adrian Stanley***

## BAC and better

Jana Rush, former event coordinator at Manitou Springs' Business of Art Center, arrived to work Aug. 16 to find police on site and an inch of standing water in her Venue 515 office.

Overnight, an unknown group or individual had gotten into the building, blocked the drains, and turned on the faucets. Rush's computer, records and books were heavily damaged, as were the building's walls, and its artwork.

But many of the three dozen paintings, including a $10,000 work by Lance Green, were salvageable. Insurance covered much of the $100,000 in repairs, and according to executive director Natalie Johnson, community members pitched in to help with $10,000 in ancillary costs. Along the way, 90 new people became members.

Venue 515 reopened at the beginning of November, notably brighter with upgraded lighting, which Johnson says allowed them to gain another proper gallery and a space being used as a reading room, lending library and community art gallery.

"You know, I almost want to shake their hand," Johnson says with a laugh, "if I ever meet the person that did that and be like, 'You, potentially, changed us financially so we're good as an organization.' ... Their goal, I guess, was to destroy the institution, and instead we're much stronger."

At this time, the Manitou Springs Police are still working on the case, but will not release further information. ***— Edie Adelstein***

## Demolition on tap

Since we reported about dilapidated houses surviving years of city Code Enforcement scrutiny ("Ramshackle blues," News, May 30), the wrecking ball has moved closer to one house.

An abandoned home at 1726 W. Colorado Ave., owned by Mark Cunningham, will be demolished Feb. 14, the city engineering office says via e-mail, under a contract to be awarded sometime after Jan. 10.

Last spring, the city said it was to be razed in June. But it was found to contain asbestos, adding complications and delays, according to the city.

The other house featured in the story, a fire-gutted building at 405 S. Cedar St., is owned by Norma and Sam Dunlap Jr. After visiting the house 100 times over the years, officers apparently got the Dunlaps' attention by threatening to impose fines of $2,000 annually.

"We issued Mr. Dunlap a summons and that seemed to light a fire under him," says code enforcement chief Ken Lewis via e-mail. "He abated all of the exterior violations prior to the court date and the case was dismissed. Recently, a retaining wall in the front yard was beginning to fall. Sam was notified and he took care of the problem."

Last May, it had 77 buildings on its condemned list, meaning occupancy is forbidden. Today, there are 102. Of those 14 are considered "dilapidated," meaning they've had three or more code violations within the previous year, are a blight, and raise safety concerns. ***— Pam Zubeck***

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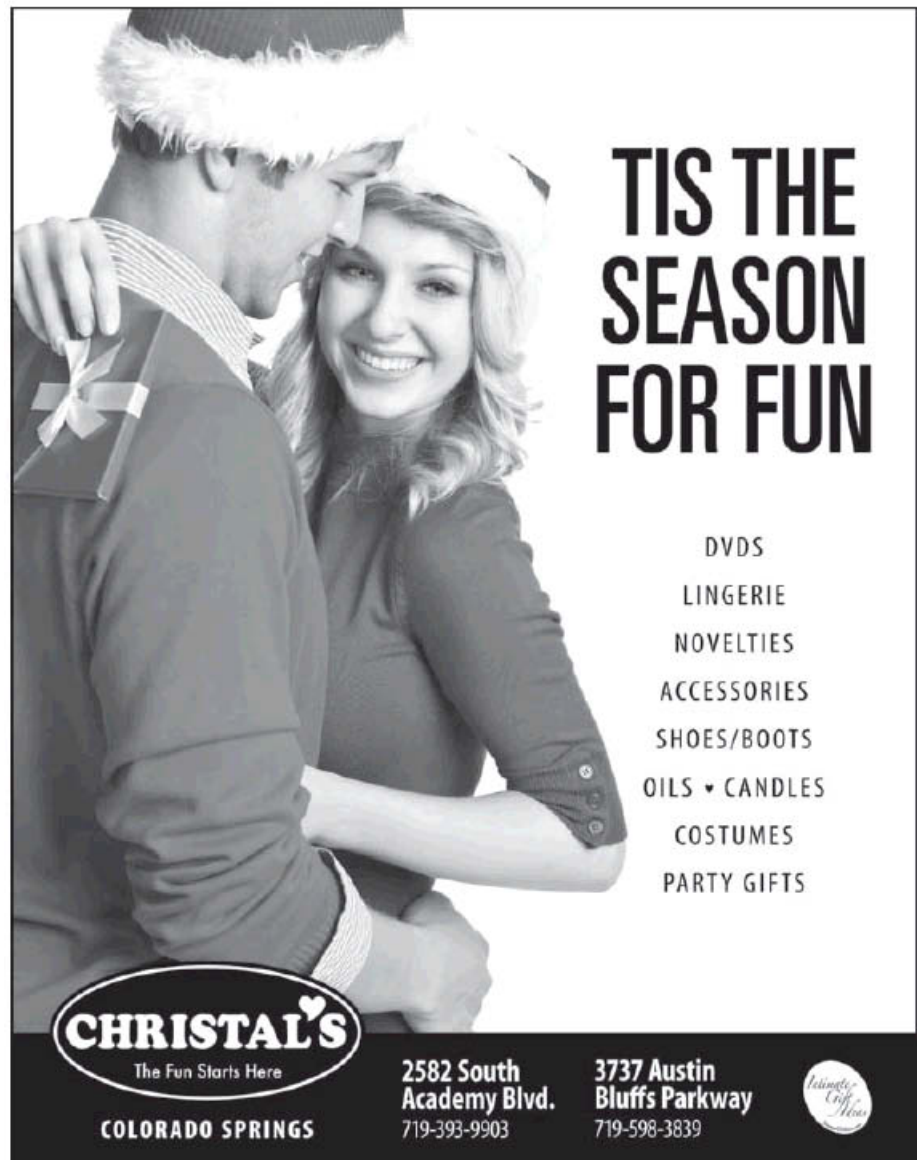

# Food for thought

## StarFit Kids shows students and families better ways to eat for life

**By Rhonda Van Pelt**

This seems an appropriate time of year to focus on nutrition and fitness, and on an organization that helps young people make the right choices for healthier lives.

Sabra Zirkle, a registered dietitian, and Lelia Davis, a registered nurse, founded StarFit Kids in 2009 after becoming alarmed about the long-term consequences of poor nutrition and lack of exercise. It's no secret that childhood obesity can lead to diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and arthritis, plus the attendant financial burdens.

Surya Cox

*More games, less gaming: StarFit's program in action.*

"A lot of the research shows that kids who are overweight or obese, by 6 years old, half of those kids go on to be overweight or obese adults," Zirkle says. "We kind of feel like while they're little sponges, when we can have the greatest impact, we want to get in as early as possible while they're making these choices."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 17 percent of U.S. children and adolescents are obese, triple the rate from 1980. The 2011 Colorado Health Report Card, issued by the Colorado Health Foundation, shows that just 64.1 percent of school-age children participated in vigorous physical activity for four or more days per week, putting Colorado 34th in the nation. And 14.2 percent of our children are obese, for a ranking of 23rd.

### Eat this, not that

Zirkle is no food cop, checking lunchboxes in school cafeterias or bursting into homes to inspect the refrigerator contents. Nor does she quote statistics when she visits elementary physical education classes.

Her free program uses hands-on games and a tunnel made of metal and fabric that simulates a clogged artery — popular with the kids — to make learning about nutrition enjoyable for elementary students.

StarFit Kids encourages children to play at least one hour a day and keep hydrated; choose low-fat foods and healthy fats; eat three balanced meals every day; cut down on sedentary activities such as computer games; choose water over sugary drinks; and eat junk food in moderation.

Zirkle applies those lessons to her own children, who are 8 and 6.

"If a kid says, 'I want some chips,' is that the end of the world? Probably not," she says. "But I don't want them to sit down and eat the whole bag."

The program illustrates portion guidelines in ways everyone can understand, recommending a serving of fruit the size of a yo-yo, a serving of veggies the size of a tennis ball, a serving of whole grains the size of a CD, and a serving of meat the size of a box of eight crayons. Students take home information about the importance of a balanced breakfast, healthful snacks and outdoor activities, and Zirkle participates in family wellness nights in schools.

**'You'd be crazy not to take advantage of it.'**

The program is in more than a half-dozen schools currently, with connections made largely by e-mail outreach and word of mouth. And PE teachers Joe Wetters and Janice Ruybal can attest that it works.

"Lots of the parents that come in say, 'My child is making better choices,'" says Wetters, who teaches at Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy in School District 12. "StarFit has been in this school long enough that some of those kids that started in kindergarten are now second- and third-graders, so they've been exposed to it for a while."

**CAPSULE**

**StarFit Kids**

**248/520-0371, starfitkids.org**

Ruybal has witnessed improvements in her students at District 11's Bristol Elementary.

"I've seen them at lunchtime say, 'Oh, remember? You're supposed to eat that.' When StarFit comes back to speak to the kids, they still know what food groups are and what's healthy and not healthy. Hopefully, that transfers to healthier habits."

### Sticking with you

StarFit Kids and the partner PE teachers don't track weight loss; instead, it's more about encouraging a lifetime of healthier choices.

"From all the research and what I've learned as a dietitian, you don't put kids on diets," Zirkle says. "If there's a child that's really obese and a doctor is involved, that's an extreme case. But that's not anything we do. Kids are going to retain weight right before they grow and right before puberty. It's looked at as a bad thing, but it's really just your body getting ready to make that next jump."

Interns from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs help StarFit Kids with data tracking and other behind-the-scenes work. But Zirkle, whose program operated on $12,000 in grants and donations last year, can always use volunteers with science backgrounds to help with presentations.

"I think what StarFit Kids does is unmatched by what we, as teachers, can give the kids," says Wetters. "It's really nice to have someone else come into the classroom, and the kids are excited about listening to what they have to say. It does make a difference for the kids; it's not just me telling them that routinely."

"I think you'd be crazy not to take advantage of it," Ruybal says, adding that her students always show improvement when they're quizzed about nutrition before and after the StarFit Kids presentations. Even better, they retain that knowledge from one year to the next.

As Wetters says, "I don't want the kids to end up being 35 years old and saying, 'I wish I would have made better choices as a 10-year-old.'"

*— newsroom@csindy.com*

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# DO YOU KNOW TAOS?

Some people say there are no more secrets left in skiing and snowboarding. They say there's nothing left to be discovered, that all the stashes are gone, the mysteries revealed. They say that powder days have been reduced to a mere hour, and the only way to chase first tracks is fight the crowds.

**Well, they don't know Taos. Do you?**

# 2012 The year in pictures

Taylor Hines

*The Waldo Canyon Fire on the night of June 26, as seen from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs campus.*

Welcome to a look back at 2012 through the lenses of local photographers — both *Indy* staffers and community contributors.

Where words sometimes fail us, be it in describing beauty, elation, sadness or devastation, images sometimes convey all that *really* needs to be, or can be said.

It's no surprise to any of us that scenes from the Waldo Canyon Fire are the first to be conjured in our memories from this past year and also comprised the largest thematic batch of submissions we received from readers. But thankfully, 2012 wasn't all marred by despondency: Joyful moments were found across the arts scene, sports world and in community service. And other happenings of civic note displayed the passion and commitment of citizens to a variety of worthy causes.

Here's looking toward 2013 and whatever it holds, which will undoubtedly capture our viewfinders' attention.

**— *The* Indy *staff***

File photo

*Douglas Bruce, photographed while being booked into El Paso County Jail. Found guilty of tax evasion in December 2011, Bruce spent 103 days in Denver city jail.*

Matthew Schniper

*Jonathan Morin practices before Cirque du Soleil's* Dralion *show in Loveland in February. Morin and Co. put on eight World Arena shows later that month.*

Bryan Oller

*Workers on the night of Aug. 28 replace Memorial Hospital's signage, to reflect the city enterprise's lease to the University of Colorado Health.*

# Full Moon
## Parade of Lights Hike!

December 28th, 6:30 pm
Garden of the Gods Visitor Center

Join us!

Trails and Open Space Coalition, Friends of Garden of the Gods and the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center for a *magical* 2 mile hike under the full moon in the *Garden*.

$5 adults $2 for children 16 and under
$12 for families!

Tickets available at the Visitor Center night of event.

Cookies and hot chocolate provided after the hike! Each participant will also receive a free Star Light necklace!
Dress warm, Suitable for children over 8 yrs.

Trails and Open Space Coalition

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Photo by Cayton Photography

Mike Bonar

*Emotions run high during the final, Springs-based miles of the 2012 USA Pro Cycling Challenge's Stage 5. Despite almost universal acclaim for the event locally, Colorado Springs was informed last week that it would not get a stage in 2013, with the race route sticking primarily to areas north and west.*

Brienne Boortz

*Mike Bristol stands outside 'the Ivywild project' — an ambitious redevelopment of the former school on South Tejon Street, to be anchored by Bristol Brewing Co. — which got the green light in 2012.*

Rebecca Tillett

*Hip-hop winners the ReMINDers perform Sept. 6, as one of more than 20 acts at this year's Indy Music Awards.*

Bryan Oller

*A horde of bearded Santas gathers along the Santa Fe Trail Dec. 1 for the Chasing Santa 5K run/walk.*

Bryan Oller

*At America the Beautiful Park July 27, folks don swim caps in a Guinness World Record attempt.*

Staff of Buttercup's Frozen Yogurt

*After more than 1,000 people completed the Waldo Waldo 5K Oct. 21, many headed to Buttercup's.*

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RITZ

Colorado Springs Independent

Don't drink and drive.

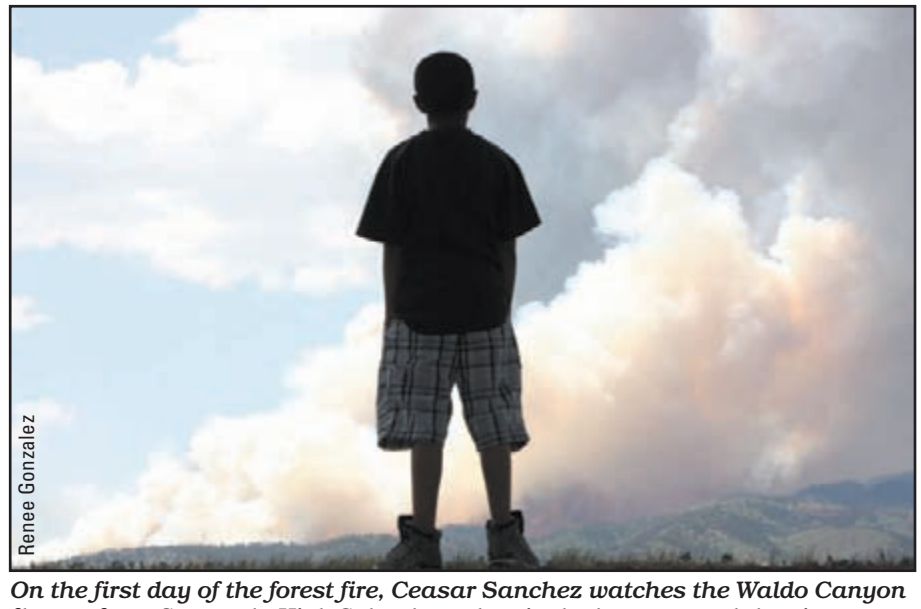
*Anti–fracking demonstrators capture attention outside Colorado Springs City Hall on Dec. 11. Later that day, Councilors voted to delay a final vote on the city's controversial proposed oil and gas ordinance, which would approve drilling within city limits, including residential areas, until February.*

*The Coalition for the Upper South Platte has been working on Waldo Canyon Fire restoration, here at Flying W Ranch.*

*Air Force Thunderbirds soar over Falcon Stadium for Air Force Academy graduation on May 23.*

*Ormao Dance Company performs at the Fine Arts Center in November.*

*President Obama regales the Democratic masses at Colorado College on Aug. 9. About 4,000 people braved 90-degree temperatures to see Obama.*




*On the first day of the forest fire, Ceasar Sanchez watches the Waldo Canyon flames from Coronado High School, as they inch closer toward the city.*

# Seven Days to Live

## 26 Wednesday
### open mic

It's the day after Christmas and you're ready (perhaps beyond ready) to get out of the house. If you've always fancied yourself the type to audition for *Who's Got Talent?*, tighten your guitar strings, put your best jokes on note cards, and loosen your hips — it's **open mic night** at **Club Q** (3430 N. Academy Blvd., clubqonline.com). The show kicks off at 10 p.m., and it's free for everyone 21-plus (which means even if you don't perform, you can certainly still cheer from the audience). Extra incentive for those willing to share their talents: two free cocktails. — ***KA***

## 27 Thursday
### kids

Now that it's *two* days after Christmas, it's time to get your littlest housemates out of their pajamas and away from anything battery-operated. The **Western Museum of Mining and Industry** (225 North Gate Blvd., wmmi.org) is here to help, with **Cookie Mining** events at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. For $4 to $8 per person (kids under 3 free), participants form teams and figure out how to get the most out of their efforts to "mine" chocolate chips from cookies. Eating ensues. To make reservations, call 488-0880 or e-mail rsvp@wmmi.org. — ***KW***

## 28 Friday
### music

The Beatles insisted "Love is all you need," but **Beach Boys** fans aren't so sure. Mike Love's stripped-down version of the legendary band, which plays the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com, $60-$75) at 8 tonight, has been causing considerable controversy this year. Following a successful 50th anniversary reunion album and summer tour, Love announced that co-founders Brian Wilson, Al Jardine and David Marks would be leaving the tour once it moved on to smaller venues. Wilson, long considered the group's creative genius, publicly protested Love's announcement, saying that it "kind of feels like being fired." While fans have reason for disappointment (Wilson crafted the legendary *Pet Sounds*, Love was responsible for "Kokomo"), it's still a safe bet that the show will be highly professional and pleasantly nostalgic, but probably not too inspired. — ***BF***

## 29 Saturday
### fitness

As I write this, I'm munching on a white-chocolate-macadamia-nut cookie. And yesterday, while planning this page, I worked on a giant hunk of fudge. Without adding more details, suffice it to say I've decided on indulging myself. Thus, I'm going to want to work some of that butter out of my arteries, and skating is a good way to get some exercise. Today from 3:45 to 5:15, local nonprofit Sk8-Strong will host a **community open skate** at **Sertich Ice Center** (1705 E. Pikes Peak Ave., tinyurl.com/cuts9vo), where you can get in the once-federally-suggested 90 minutes of cardio. Entry is $5, and includes skate rental. — ***EA***

## 30 Sunday
### holiday

Tommyknockers are not elves that you want on your bad side. These spirits of deceased miners can either be friends or foes to all miners in the shafts. If the former, they'll knock on the walls of the mine shaft if a cave-in is about to occur, hence: "If you hear the Tommyknockers a-knockin', don't come a-walkin'." Hopefully when you're on the self-guided **Holiday Headframe Lighting Tour** (tinyurl.com/b9oo3sx) tonight in and around Victor and Cripple Creek, you won't have any bad run-ins with the mischievous little elves. If you're still into holiday stuff, catch this last day of the tour, which features headframes — real mining artifacts standing over 20 feet tall — lit up with Yuletide characters. — ***KL***

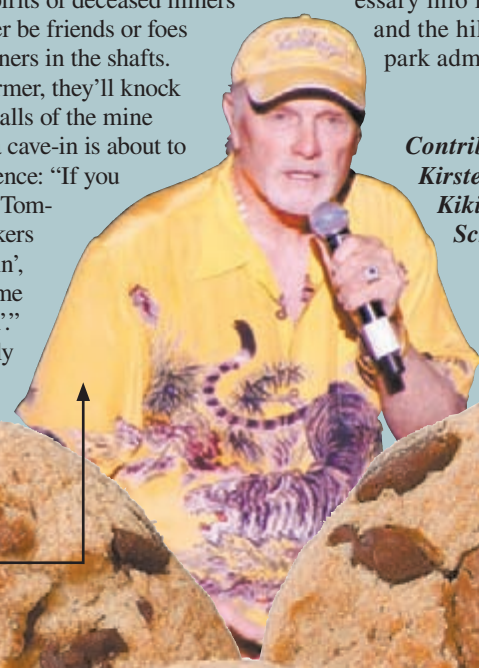
## 31 Monday
### New Year's Eve

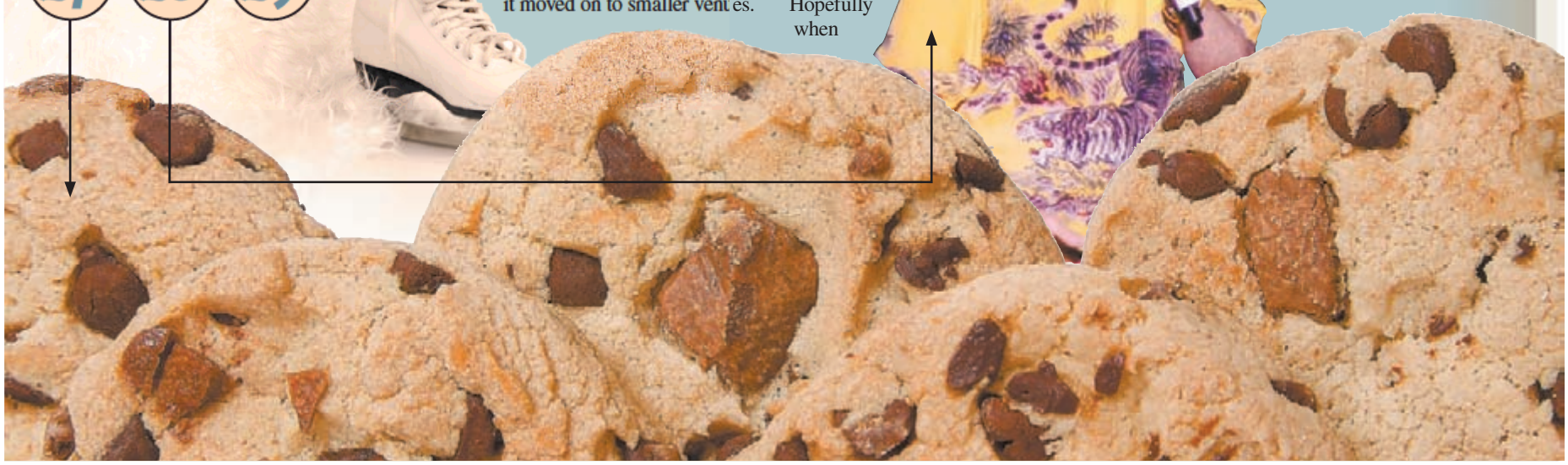
Looking for something to do? See our feature to the right for a rundown on some of the New Year's Eve parties planned for tonight.

## 1 Tuesday
### fitness

According to U2, "nothing changes on New Year's Day," but the Irish of course aren't always right. Anything and everything could change for you on one of 21 **First Day Hikes** with **Colorado Parks and Wildlife** (cpw.state.co.us). Last year, nationwide, state parks hosted more than 14,000 people who opted to kick off the new year with a short nature jaunt. Four hikes are being offered in Teller County and one in El Paso County, which isn't to say you couldn't travel farther to add a road trip to the mix. All necessary info is on the above website, and the hikes are free, though regular park admission applies. — ***MS***

***Contributors: Edie Adelstein, Kirsten Akens, Bill Forman, Kiki Lenihan, Matthew Schniper and Kirk Woundy.***





# Some nights

## A look at party options for ushering in 2013

By Edie Adelstein

It takes all kinds, Mom used to say, and that's reflected in the assortment of parties planned locally for the new year. There's a fetish ball for your experimental friend, a sock-hop-themed nostalgia-fest for mom and dad, a theater bash for the drama bugs and nonprofit pushers, and a concert with a flamenco dancer for your well-traveled grandparents.

And for yourself? See what suits your fancy below, or find NYE dinners in listings (starting on p. 38) or bar parties in Playing Around (p. 36).

- **New Year's Eve Dance**, an evening of dancing with live music by the Chuck Spurlock Band, plus appetizers and champagne or sparkling cider. 8 p.m. $17, must be paid by Dec. 26. International Dance Club, 2422 Busch Ave. 633-0195, internationaldanceclub.org.
- **Glitter and Gold: A New Year's Eve Extravaganza**, a party and fundraiser hosted by local fair-trade boutique Yobel Market, with live music, dancing, cocktails, champagne, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, photo booth and parlor games. "Think Gatsby, not Gangnam, and skip the generic dive bar." 8 p.m. $50, limited, but potentially available through Dec. 28. The Warehouse, 25 W. Cimarron St. yobelmarket.com.
- **New Year's Bash 2013**, a country-music-club soiree with giveaways, a free champagne toast and cash prizes. Dinner also available. Doors open at 4 p.m. $15-$20. Cowboys, 25 N. Tejon St., cowboyscs.com/concerts-and-events.
- **Sterling and Sapphire New Year's Eve Gala**, a Christmas Unlimited fundraiser with a silent auction, dinner, live music by Phat Daddy & the Phat Horn Doctors, champagne toast and confetti drop. 7:30 p.m. $85 per person, reservations required. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1775 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., 527-4128, 527-4629.
- **Cosmic Yoga New Year's Eve 2013 Slumber Party**, an overnight party that starts at 5:30 p.m. with yoga, Thai massage, meditation and acupuncture ($10-$20 donation for the latter) and greets 2013 with a 4:30 a.m. kundalini sadhana yoga practice and chant. Snacks, breakfast and coffee provided (no alcohol here). $25-$45 donation. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, smokebrush.org.
- **Resurrection — A New Era of Fetish**, a kinkster's bash with fetish performances and demos (small- and large-scale) throughout the club, "tasting booths" where you can try kinks like electrical play and bondage, as well as a cigar lounge with complimentary tea and a balloon drop at midnight. For 18 and older. 9 p.m. $10. The Underground, 110 N. Nevada Ave., undergroundbars.com/special.html.
- **Springs Ensemble Theatre's New Year's Eve Spectacular Spectacular**, a benefit for the local theater company through the *Indy Give!* campaign. Dress in your finest masquerade attire for cocktails, champagne and appetizers — you could win the mask competition. 8 p.m. $20 donation. Springs Ensemble Theatre, 1903 E. Cache la Poudre St., springsensembletheatre.org.
- **New Year's Eve Gala Ball**, a traditional NYE party — usually run by the charmingly kooky Major Mandolin, who's taking the year off — based on '50s and '60s sockhops with live music, dinner, dancing, party favors and door prizes. Half of all proceeds go to Grace Be Unto You food pantry. 7 p.m. $60 per person. Marriott Hotel, 5580 Tech Center Drive, magicalproductionsllc.myevent.com/3/events.htm.
- **Cruising with Love**, a destination-themed party with "ports" like Miami, New York City and Buenos Aires. Expect dancing, karaoke, performances, dance lessons, buffet fare from Food Designers, singles mingles and, of course, fine art. 7 p.m. $69-$119 per person, dinner or entertainment-only. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., csfineartscenter.org.
- **New Year's Eve: *¡En Fuego!***, a "Spanish-style" New Year's Eve concert by the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, conducted by Josep Caballé-Domenech, with mezzo-soprano Karin Mushegain and flamenco dancer Julia Chacon. 8 p.m. $19-$59. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., csphilharmonic.org.

***— edie@csindy.com***

## 4Play

Other options to get you excited about your week.

**Backup plan**
Full Moon Parade of Lights Hike, 6:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 28 at Garden of the Gods

**Potato pick**
*American Masters — Joffrey: Mavericks of American Dance* premiere, 9 p.m., Friday, Dec. 28 on PBS

**Before you know it**
Harlem Globetrotters, Jan. 6 at the World Arena

**Have you heard?**
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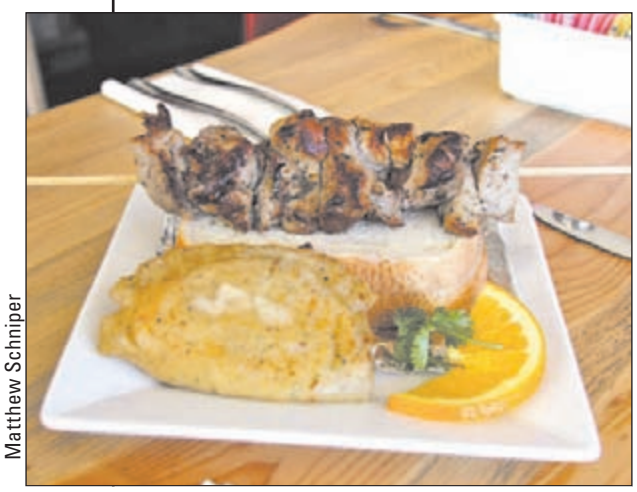
# Appetite

## Immovable feast

### Palmer Lake spot blends Old World and new wave

**By Matthew Schniper**

There's nothing particularly normal about The Parked Pierogi, from its name to its tiny dining room to its equally small and eclectic menu and amusing drink list. But that's OK — a draw, even — and all can be explained rather effortlessly.



Matthew Schniper

*Italian immigrants gifted Upstate New York the "spiedie" sandwich, a testament to marinating.*

The name: Business partners Julie Wetzel, Nicole Schoenfeld and Christopher Williamson originally imagined a food truck featuring their starchy, Eastern European comfort-food stars. But they didn't have the dough to invest in reliable wheels and commissary fees, so they opted to rent at a small brick-and-mortar first. And now that it's going so well, Wetzel says, they'll most likely stay parked, soon expanding hours and offerings.

The cozy space: You may remember it as the pricier Amuzé Bistro, before chef Bill Sherman moved that business into the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Dating back to 1874, it was a bunkhouse and then station agent's house for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. It now holds a beautifully carved wooden bar with seven seats and 10 more seats around three tables. In warmer months, the patio will seat 40.

The humble menu: It's Schoenfeld's fusion-oriented baby, with everything from hearty pork-bison bolognese (under an egg as a breakfast item, $8) and superb green chile-laced huevos rancheros ($8) to an atypical pierogi sampler (including unique bratwurst and pulled-pork versions, $8.50). Not to be forgotten, also, is a Binghamton, N.Y.-inspired "spiedie" sandwich of extensively marinated, vibrantly herby pork or chicken hunks, served seared on a skewer with Italian white bread slices ($7).

The drinks: Inspired by Fort Collins college years, they include Easy Street Wheat beer blended with Champagne, as the effervescent "Man-Mosa" ($5); coffee with a welcome kick of honey whiskey ($4.50); and the finest Bloody Mary I've had in a long time ($7), consisting of half-spicy and half-mild house mix and a bountiful bouquet of celery, olives, lime, a pickle and a crispy slab of bacon (!) protruding from a salt-caked rim.

Overall, it's a fun atmosphere, where it's clear the kids in the kitchen are playing with creative touches to personalize their food, all house-made save for a couple shortcuts like canned black beans. Gyro meat is house-seasoned and -shaved; meats lengthily marinated and slow-roasted; pierogi dough rolled, stuffed and shaped before meeting boiling water, then a pan-sear for crispiness. A tart wild blueberry barbecue sauce competes for your pierogi-dipping attention, but the agave beer mustard easily wins when it comes to the side kielbasa slivers on the pierogi sampler.

Even quinoa gets attention as a side to the Southwest Egg Rolls ($7) of refried beans, beef, pork and gooey jack and cheddar. The grain gets a Mexican rice-style treatment with a touch too much cumin and chile powder — consider it a lively cowboy chuckwagon with a wobbly wheel.

Grounded familiarity *can* be found in items like The Classic breakfast plate ($7) of two eggs, an English muffin and wonderfully house-seasoned sausage, but even it comes with an herby mashed-potato-and-cheese pierogi side. Those pierogies, by the way, are easily likeable, though purists may take issue with the post-boil sear. (Admittedly, they didn't move me like the more soft, ravioli-like types I fell in love with in Poland.)

Still, as a creative, collective first effort, Parked Pierogi delivers distinctive style. From its historic bones to cultural classics, the dumpling-driven dive deserves the destination drive.

***— matthew@csindy.com***

**CAPSULE**

**The Parked Pierogi**

**292 State Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 210-7029**

**Thursdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (lunch menu); Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (breakfast menu)**

# SIDE Dish

Culinary crumbs & gastronomic gossip

## A French affair

If you've been on one of the Thursday evening Old Colorado City Wine Bar Tours (shopoldcoloradocity.com), you're ahead of the rest of us in having visited La Baguette French Bakery's saucy new feature, **Upstairs at La Baguette**.

Back in August, Toni Rog, who bought the popular bakery (2417 W. Colorado Ave., labaguette-co.com) six years ago, quietly added a "very homey" and classy wine-bar component that's only open from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., Thursdays though Saturdays. Rog says it features "an excellent" New and Old World wine selection, fine Champagnes and whiskies, and absinthes from different regions.

Drinks apparently come with a complimentary basket of La Baguette bread with olive oil and a daily special spread, such as an olive tapenade or Italian-style white bean dip. Currently, a few other food items can be ordered à la carte, such as a cheese plate, Swiss fondue, escargot or prosciutto-wrapped melon.

## Hanoi to hamburgers

In the former Vietnamese Garden location at 3043 W. Pikes Peak Ave., **The Dive** (632-4332) recently opened, after significant interior renovations. Owner Dominick Scola, who grew up in the barbecue business in Kansas City and also owns the seasonal Dominick's Fruit Market at 4504 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., says the eatery is basically a breakfast-and-burgers spot.

The Dive lists around 20 half-pound burgers in the $7 to $8 range, with varieties including a slopper, Hawaiian, bleu cheese, spicy "Suicide" and veggie. The beef comes from Ranch Foods Direct. Common American breakfast plates are served all day next to 59-cent bottomless cups of coffee — "We figured Starbucks across the street would like that," Scola quips — supplied by Pikes Perk roaster Rick Roehrman.

Scola says he won't procure a liquor license, as "we want them to sober up here." After the new year, he plans to extend his daily 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. hours to 24 hours every day.

## À la carte

• **Cake Crumbs** (cake-crumbscos.com) closed its doors at 3 E. Bijou St. last Saturday due to an ongoing dispute with the landlord and original lessee, says co-owner Denon Moore. Those wishing to obtain the company's cupcakes have two options: Head to the Denver location or keep an eye on the social media pages of its sister outfit, The Springs Cupcake Truck. Moore says she'd like to find another retail location in the Springs should further negotiation efforts on the old space fail, but all plans remain tentative.

• **Xpresso Yourself Coffee Shop** has moved out of the drive-through at 2103 Templeton Gap Road and into the Citadel Mall (750 Citadel Drive East, #1100, 315/778-3823).

*— Matthew Schniper*


# APPETIZERS

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528 S. Tejon St.
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**Super Nova**
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tonysdowntownbar.com
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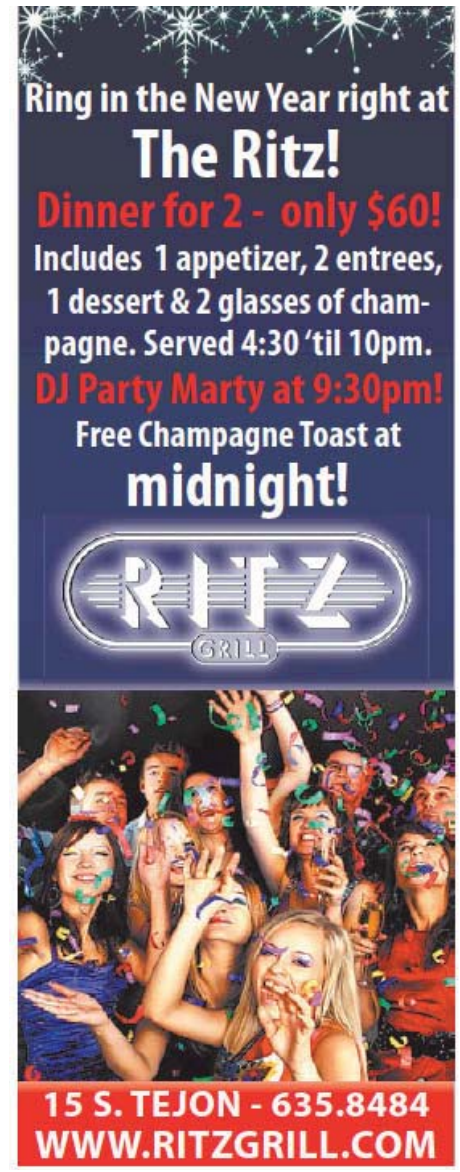
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# Dine&Dash Quick takes on food and drink

## Magic Hat Brewing Company

*5 Bartlett Bay Road, South Burlington, Vt., magichat.net*

Magic Hat is a big deal in the Northeast (I was reverently introduced to it a decade ago near Boston), but it only recently became available in Colorado, affirms a Vintages Wine & Spirits employee. The company boasts a somewhat funky portfolio, as evidenced by **Magic Hat #9** (around $9/six-pack), a "not quite pale ale" with low hops, a light 5.1 ABV, amber hue, malty texture, tangy tongue bite and odd, arguably off-putting, semi-synthetic-tasting fruit characteristic that's challenging to describe.

I get blueberry hints; a friend, rosy flower notes; and many online reviewers, apricot elements. The bottle only says "ale with natural flavor," promoting a "mysterious melange of time-honored ingredients." (Thanks for that.) I'm with my friend in thinking that "12 ounces will do." And I find the Heart of Darkness stout to be a much better Magic Hat emissary. — ***Matthew Schniper***

## Charlie's Pit BBQ/Yakibob's

*1190 E. Fillmore St., 632-9452*

With its chipped brown tables, brick walls and red plastic chairs, Charlie's (or, equally, Yakibob's) has a faded look that fits the smoke-tinged air perfectly. But given the barbecue, or at least the stuff on the **lunch combo plate** ($8.59), I can't wholly recommend you see for yourself. Mostly covered in a too-sweet, ketchup-y sauce, the platter I order comes with a split spare rib, some pulled pork and brisket, and a small pile of spicy sausage.

Starting there, that sausage is industrial-strength — like a cheap, Tabasco-laced hot dog. The shreds of pork come off unseasoned and a little dry, while the sides of flavorless potato salad and weirdly tangy baked beans are just bad. Though lacking any char, the rib's tender, scrape-off-with-your-teeth meat is much better, and so are the slices of brisket, held together with buttery fat. — ***Bryce Crawford***

## Taste of Thai Spice

*1609 Lashelle Way, 226-1999*

I'd heard chatter that my longtime favorite Thai place had slipped a little recently, but found that to be untrue on a Friday night. Prices haven't gone up in two-plus years, and chef Sumitra Kennedy still rules the line after more than seven. Though there's the blare of Thailand's Shopping Network TV to contend with on a big-screen TV, you still don't have to worry about MSG here or any shortcuts; it's real tamarind and real hot peppers all the way.

"One to 10, if 10 is unbearable?" asks our waitress, gifting me my new favorite heat-rating index. The **Panang Curry** ($10.95), ordered with chicken at a 7, is a pretty perfect fusion of fire and fresh flavors, led by lime leaves and basil. A **pad Thai** ($9.95) with shrimp ($3 extra) is as locally superior as it's ever been. And house-made **coconut and mango ice creams** ($3.95) are even more excellent over **sticky rice** ($2 more), starchy saltiness amping the sweetness. — ***Matthew Schniper***


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# Film

## Race to the top

***Django Unchained** (R)*

**By MaryAnn Johanson**

When Quentin Tarantino is good, he's downright genius. He makes me say ridiculous things like: Is it possible that this nerdy white boy has made the most important film yet about American slavery? Could *only* a nerdy white boy get away with making a movie that combines the urgency of pulp fiction and the gore of splatter movies and the ranginess of westerns *and* make it about a black man killing white people *and* riddle it with countless repetitions of the n-word *and* leave us with a sense that this is in no way a racist film?

*There is no grey. Only black and white, sweet revenge and yet another brilliant Quentin Tarantino film for the ages.*

So many marvelous contradictions! How is it that Tarantino can tell a story that could not be more about race and make it feel post-racial? Django is one of the juiciest, most complex, most intriguing, most human heroes that pulp fiction has ever seen.

There couldn't be a less color-blind role than that of an unexpectedly freed slave in Texas in 1858, but Tarantino treats his protagonist with an offhandedness that might mislead you into suspecting there's nothing particularly unusual about this story. And then he hands this role over to Jamie Foxx, who sashays into it with the same casual acceptance. It's almost as if this is the product of some glorious future world in which black action heroes are as unremarkable as white ones.

Tarantino spins a dark fantasia of the pre-Civil War South that is hilarious, ferocious, shocking and wise, sometimes all at once. He is unafraid to be pointed, as with the bounty hunter who frees Django: "Dr. King" Schultz. He is unafraid to be absurd, crafting for Django a wife still bound in slavery called Broomhilda (Kerry Washington), dubbed so by a German mistress — which creates in Schultz (also a German abroad) a sense of mythic obligation for him to help Django rescue her, what with Brunhilde, her namesake, being a German national heroine and all.

And brilliantly, Tarantino dares to cast the indispensable Christoph Waltz as Schultz, a very different role from the Nazi he played in *Inglourious Basterds*. Waltz is as deadpan funny here as he was chilling there, and in any other film that wasn't so crammed full of awesome as this one is, you'd have to concede that he steals it. Here, what is one of the best performances of the year is just one more bauble to be dazzled by.

Tarantino plays with the power of myth on all sorts of levels, both overt and meta. It's in the unexpected relationship between a brutal plantation owner (Leonardo DiCaprio) — to whose enterprise Django and Schultz trace Broomhilda — and his slave butler (Samuel L. Jackson), which undercuts literal and figurative black-and-white notions about slavery by exploring the complicity of some slaves in enforcing the servitude of others. It's in the unexpected use of unlikely anachronistic pop music on the soundtrack, bringing together 20th- and 21st-century myths of open spaces and black power in a way that seems to slam open rooms in the American über-story that had been exclusionary of anyone not white.

Many filmmakers appreciate the mythic power of cinema, but few can so effortlessly whip up moments that create their own instant mythology, as Tarantino does with almost everything that Django does onscreen, while never being self-conscious about it. I don't just love this film, I love that a film like this can exist and be this smart and this daring.

***— scene@csindy.com***

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# Film

## Stage plight

***Les Misérables*** (PG-13)

**By Scott Renshaw**

Maybe it's not necessary for me to lay out my *Les Misérables* bona fides. Maybe it doesn't matter that I adore the Schönberg/Boublil musical adaptation of Victor Hugo's novel, that I've seen multiple touring and regional theater productions, that I've owned the original Broadway cast recording, that I've wept to "A Little Fall of Rain" more times than I can count.

*Helena Bonham Carter may rule the Thénardiers' inn, but* Les Mis, *as a whole, is just a bunch of extras on the side.*

Maybe none of the above imbues my perspective with any more credibility than that of a newbie. But I'm pretty sure this is a stage production that's almost impossible to turn into a movie with the same power. And I'm damned sure that if there were a way to accomplish that task, this isn't it.

That much is clear almost from director Tom Hooper's opening shot, which sweeps down from the sky into the French shipyards circa 1815, where Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman) is working off his 19-year sentence for stealing a loaf of bread, under the watchful eye of the relentless Inspector Javert (Russell Crowe). "This is going to be a movie, not some stage-bound adaptation of a play," Hooper all but screams, and in so doing, he shows he doesn't really understand *Les Mis* at all.

Because *Les Mis*, fundamentally, is opera: emotions writ large, combined with stagecraft, meant to be absorbed while taking in the entirety of the scene.

There are moments when Hooper shows he understands how to bring this emotion to the surface. It's there when Anne Hathaway — as Fantine, the young single mother who turns to prostitution to support her child, Cosette, who will eventually become Valjean's adopted daughter — tears into her show-stopping aria "I Dreamed a Dream," a single-take performance that's riveting in its focused intensity. And it's present in a similar single-take song, the young soldier Marius' (Eddie Redmayne) lament for fallen friends "Empty Chairs at Empty Tables." While the approach may be obvious — just let the singer and the song hold the screen — it's powerful nonetheless.

But there's no similar way to handle scenes in which a single voice isn't the center of attention. "A Heart Full of Love," the crucial showcase in the romantic triangle between Marius, Cosette (Amanda Seyfried) and the girl who loves Marius unrequitedly, Éponine (Samantha Barks), never once places all three performers in the same shot, turning the song into a series of close-up snippets with no sense of the connections that will change their fate. The same is true for all the big choral numbers, like "At the End of the Day" and the first-act finale "One Day More," which lose a sense of scope through piecemeal editing.

A different problem plagues the casting of Crowe as Javert, whose decades-long pursuit of Valjean, and his insistence that a criminal cannot be rehabilitated, provide the story's central conflict. Though Crowe fronts a band, his voice isn't up to the task.

And while he's certainly not the baritone belter most commonly associated with the role, it's more damaging that Crowe doesn't seem to understand how to act musical theater of this kind. He's Method-acting Javert to death in virtually every scene, attempting to convey with simmering, steely-eyed intensity what needs to be conveyed through the sheer force of commanding a stage. Jackman, a seasoned musical-theater stage performer, gets it; Crowe does what he can, never having exercised the operatic muscles he's called on to use.

Yet even when *Les Misérables* plays to the balcony — as Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter do as the comic-relief Thénardiers — it still often feels stunted and ineffective, a story out of its element. Those familiar with the stage production will recall the trademark massive turntable, and the barricade constructed in the streets of Paris by the young protesters including Marius and his friends. There's simply no way to duplicate that kind of impressive spectacle in cinematic form, not when you can simply cut to the next scene, and the next song.

At the end of the day, Tom Hooper doesn't realize that live singing on a movie set isn't enough to re-create the majestic *Les Misérables* experience, not when so many of the people involved insist on turning it into ... well, a movie.

***— scene@csindy.com***

### RatingsWrapUp

| | Indy | Hollywood Reporter | Rotten Tomatoes | Variety |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Django Unchained (R) | Brilliant | Enjoy | Brilliant | Enjoy |
| The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD | Enjoy | Wait for DVD |
| Les Miserables (PG-13) | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD | Enjoy | Enjoy |
| Silver Linings Playbook (R) | Brilliant | Brilliant | Brilliant | Brilliant |
| This Is 40 (R) | Wait for DVD | Enjoy | Wait for DVD | Brilliant |

KEY: Brilliant · Enjoy · Wait for DVD · Lame

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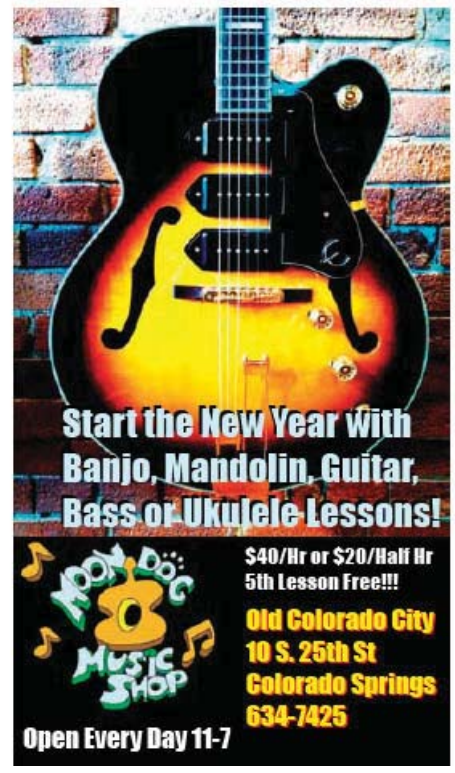

# CineFiles

***Django! Double Features*** (NR)

*Timeless Media Group*

As Quentin Tarantino's spaghetti western re-imagining *Django Unchained* hits theaters (see p. 31), numerous DVD companies are releasing the sequels, spinoffs and rip-offs of the original *Django*. The best of the lot is Timeless Media's dynamic duo of double-features, which presents *A Man Called Django!* and *Django and Sartana's Showdown in the West* on the first volume, then *Django Kills Silently* and *Django's Cut Price Corpses* on the second. All four films are fun blasts of bloody mozzarella cheese and beautifully cover the vast history of how the Italian film industry exploited every hit idea to death, with each subsequent flick being more outlandishly inventive than the next, copyright laws be damned. Watching these, you can see why Tarantino was inspired by them and felt no need to maintain the traditional narrative to make his film succeed. None of these ever did, and they didn't need to. **— *Louis Fowler***

***Collision Earth*** (PG)

*Anchor Bay Home Entertainment*

Congratulations! You survived the end-of-world false alarm, meaning you're still around to watch the action-packed sci-fi thriller *Collision Earth*, which, in light of what didn't happen, may be an unreliable warning of things to come. The setup: A massive comet hits the sun, and the force of the blast knocks Mercury out of orbit. While that sucks, what sucks even more is that Mercury is — get ready for it — heading straight for Earth! As we try to deal with the fear of what's about to happen, things go from bad to worse: The planet gets magnetized and causes all kinds of gravitational wackiness. It's up to a ragtag group of aeronautical misfits to save the population, with so much cheesy CGI outer-space death and destruction green-screened all around them. *Collision Earth* is an alternate-reality idea of what *could* still happen to take out our planet, but honestly, are you buyin' it? **— *Louis Fowler***

***The Portrait of a Lady: Special Edition*** (PG-13)

*Shout! Factory*

Nicole Kidman is the lady in Jane (*The Piano*) Campion's darkly atmospheric retelling of the classic Henry James novel, delivering a powerhouse performance that should have been nominated for an Academy Award in 1996. Kidman is Isabel Archer, a daringly independent proto-feminist heiress in the late 1800s. On vacay in Europe, she sets off on a quest to find herself, turning down numerous suitors only to fall under the spell of Madame Merle (Barbara Hershey, who *was* nominated for Best Supporting Actress) and her pal Gilbert Osmond (John Malkovich). While this adaptation tends to stray from the book, with plenty of psycho-sexual erotic fantasies that distract from the story, overall the film is Merchant-Ivory fare for people who like their classic-lit adaptations dark and brooding, lush and melancholy. Even at 144 minutes, the enthralling story keeps this epic from feeling like one. **— *Louis Fowler***

# Film

## Traum-Com

***Silver Linings Playbook*** (R)

**By Scott Renshaw**

Matthew Quick's terrific 2008 novel *The Silver Linings Playbook* was a jaggedly funny, often unsettling first-person story of a man trying to return to normalcy after a traumatic event leads to a psychological breakdown and violence. So trust me when I say that the approach taken by writer/director David O. Russell (*The Fighter*) is one I absolutely did not see coming: He turned it into one of the best romantic comedies in years.

***Bradley Cooper leaves his* Hangover *days behind to register his best performance yet, in a serious role.***

It's not as though Russell tore up the source material and started over from scratch. His protagonist, Pat (Bradley Cooper), is still an emotionally damaged guy recovering with his parents (Robert De Niro and Jacki Weaver) in their working-class Philadelphia neighborhood after a court-mandated stint in a mental hospital. He's still clinging to an optimistic belief that if he continues his disciplined path of self-improvement — exercising regularly, reading great works of literature — he could get back together with his estranged wife. And Pat still forms an odd friendship with Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), the widowed sister-in-law of his best friend whose own recovery from tragedy has involved a prickly attitude and sleeping with everyone in sight.

But Russell does make some departures that steer *Silver Linings Playbook* in a considerably more crowd-pleasing direction. The "big reveal" of the event that landed Pat in the hospital, held by Quick until the end of his book, is dispensed with early on here, along with a key point about the seriousness of Pat's psychological problems. Cooper still plays Pat's bipolar disorder as unpredictable in his attempts to manage it on his own, as though sheer will power and positive thinking might be enough to overcome his brain chemistry.

Cooper gives the best performance of his career, but he had to step up his game to match what Jennifer Lawrence brings to her role. The ridiculously talented Lawrence is a knockout as Tiffany, wrapping the character's guilt and self-loathing in a blanket of defensiveness and brutal honesty. The key scenes building the tentative relationship between Pat and Tiffany — including an acidic variation on rom-com "meet-cute" at a dinner party — are terrific showcases for these performances, while also making it clear what a nightmare Russell had written himself into: trying to explore a connection between psychologically broken people that could work as upbeat romance, without being insulting to the complexity of such disorders.

Yet somehow *Silver Linings Playbook* pulls its pieces together so that the stakes feel legitimate, even as we see the potential pitfalls in this pairing. There's an unsettling sequence in which an agitated Pat becomes a physical threat to his parents. And even when the dialogue turns to the kind of dueling recriminations that can be a slow painful death for any film, Russell gives it an unconventional energy that makes even moments of highly-scripted banter, like Tiffany's insistence to Pat's father that she hasn't somehow become a "jinx" to the success of the Philadelphia Eagles, effective as purely satisfying filmmaking.

The real danger zone for the film comes as it builds toward a big dance competition for which Tiffany has enlisted Pat to be her partner, in exchange for serving as the go-between for Pat to get a letter past the restraining order to his wife. Russell bumps up the stakes unnecessarily by having Pat's father risk a huge bet on the outcome of the performance, and makes it clear exactly what kind of score we need to be looking for in order for their unconventional routine to culminate in a happy ending. The crowd-pleasing arc of a romantic comedy would seem to be enough, without also requiring a side-trip that turns the finale into *The Karate Kid*.

But, as is true for most film romances, the bottom line is simple: Has the story established characters whose happiness we can root for, and whose happiness seems tied to one another? *Silver Linings* offers up two wonderfully crafted characters, and makes their journey delightful, even though we always know that there's a lot more under the surface than a meet-cute.

**— *scene@csindy.com***

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# Twelve from '12

## A countdown of essential songs you may have missed

**By Bill Forman**

The ReMINDers

Kimbra

Warning: The following 2012 countdown does *not* contain Mumford & Sons' "I Will Wait" or Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe." And it *definitely* doesn't include PSY's "Gangnam Style," which means you can't blame us for Uncle Bob's disconcerting rendition of the Horse Dance at that next wedding reception.

Instead, this is a list of what, to my ears, were the most intriguing, compelling and just plain enjoyable songs from what turned out to be one of the most interesting years in popular music. There's much here to discover, and possibly much to disagree with as well. When you get a moment, go have a listen online at tinyurl.com/indyreverb, and there's a good chance you'll find a new favorite or two of your own.

**12. Neil Halstead, "Tied to You" (Mark Van Hoen Remix)**

Yes, Slowdive and Mojave 3 co-founder Neil Halstead sounds like Nick Drake and Bert Jansch, but he also sounds like Neil Halstead. And while Mark Van Hoen's unlikely remix of "Tied to You" might come across as sacrilegious to indie-folk purists, his addition of looped hand claps, lo-fi electric guitar and subtle synth-pads actually seems to complement Halstead's beautifully hazy vocal more than the acoustic guitar in the original. In either version, "Tied to You" is a gorgeous tune that's about as close to a new Nick Drake song as we're likely to get.

**11. Ghost, "Secular Haze"**

Admittedly, it's hard to take Ghost all that seriously, given the Swedish band's affinity for hooded robes and its frontman's fondness for dressing as a skull-faced Catholic cardinal. But while Ghost's onstage pageantry takes Nordic showmanship to its illogical conclusion, the music itself has far less in common with black metal than it does with, well, whatever it is that Blue Oyster Cult used to do. "Secular Haze," taken from the band's forthcoming sophomore album, is a strangely beguiling mix of melodic psych-rock vocals, crunchy hard-rock guitars, and what I'm thinking sounds very much like a circus calliope. If Ghost breaks big in 2013, many will blame it on shtick, but the real reason will be songs like this one.

**10. Knife & Fork, "Tightrope"**

Knife & Fork is a collaboration between Laurie Hall from the indie-rock trio Ovarian Trolley and Eric Drew Feldman, a former member of Pere Ubu and Captain Beefheart's Magic Band who's also recorded with the Pixies and produced Frank Black's solo work. At this point, I should also mention that Feldman and PJ Harvey, whose band he also plays in, recorded a track for an album I co-produced more than a decade ago. But even if we'd never met, I promise I'd still be touting "Tightrope," the trip-hoppiest track from Knife & Fork's sophomore album and a perfect showcase for the duo's oddly compelling mix of ethereal vocals and hypnotic pop instincts. Plus, the video has vintage footage of high-wire daredevils and a train-hopping chimp.

**9. Beach Boys, "That's Why God Made the Radio"**

The last thing I expected from 2012 — or really any year since the Beach Boys went the way of Jimmy Buffett — was a reunion single that captures the magic of *Pet Sounds* without sounding like half-hearted nostalgia. "That's Why God Made the Radio" reminds us why the Beatles were actually jealous of the Beach Boys, and why indie-rock songwriters still long to emulate Brian Wilson. And when those unmistakable harmonies come in on the chorus, it's hard not to get chills. Ironically, the release date of this loving homage to radio made it ineligible for airplay on the strictly formatted stations that thrive on the band's old hits.

**8. Die Antwoord, "I Fink U Freeky"**

OK, so Die Antwoord has slipped down the list a bit since "Enter the Ninja" was my No. 3 pick back in 2010. But maybe that's just because this year's overall music offerings are so much better. What's certain is that the outrageous performance-art personas of emcees Ninja and Yo-Landi Vi$$er have helped them survive their transition from the indies to the majors and back again. And this feel-odd-hit-of-the-summer proves the South African rave-hop duo's music is as worthy of attention as the over-the-top imagery that accompanies it.

**7. Father John Misty, "Hollywood Forever Cemetery Sings"**

Father John Misty's *Fear Fun* album was an immaculately composed, perfectly polished pop-rock debut that took critics by surprise, given that the album's creator had been best-known as the drummer for Fleet Foxes. Actually, Josh Tillman had numerous singer-songwriterly albums under his own name before abandoning the coffee-house-circuit vibe for a more full-spectrum sound. Standout track "Hollywood Forever Cemetery Sings" is incurably hooky, with the forever cynical Tillman wringing four notes from a single syllable: "Je-e-e-e-sus Christ, girl / I laid up for hours in a daze / Retracing the expanse of your American back / With Adderall and weed in my veins." (Editor's note: Father John Misty will be playing the Black Sheep on Jan. 5.)

**6. The ReMINDers, "You Can Count on Me"**

When I watched the ReMINDers perform during the Planet Hip-Hop showcase at this year's South by Southwest, "You Can Count on Me" was the song that surely got the biggest crowd reaction. It's not hard to hear why. As featured on the Colorado Springs couple's sophomore CD, *Born Champions*, it's a moving expression of mutually assured devotion that juxtaposes rap verses and soulful choruses as deftly as anyone this side of Lauryn Hill and the Fugees.

**5. Neil Young & Crazy Horse, "Ramada Inn"**

Best Neil Young I've heard in a very long time. All 17 minutes of it.

Neil Halstead

**4. Y.N.RichKids, "Hot Cheetos and Takis"**

"Munchin' on my Takis like I just don't care / Then I walked up to your girl and she's asking me to share." Who would have thought that the year's best ensemble rap would be a pre-teen ode to hyper-palatable snack addiction? With its heartfelt chorus ("Snack, snack, snack, CRUNCH") and a procession of seriously talented grade-school emcees, this was truly a breath of fresh air in a challenging year. The accompanying video is essential viewing; be sure not to miss the dreadlocked kid whose fairly screamed verse makes Mystikal sound like a sleepy-eyed crooner.

**3. Chuck Snow, "Whichever Way the Wind Blows"**

"Whichever Way the Wind Blows" is a profoundly moving ballad written and recorded at the height of the Waldo Canyon Fire. Chuck Snow, a veteran of Colorado Springs bands like the Autono and the Lo-Fi Cowboys, manages to capture that moment when what really matters in life is thrown into stark relief: "Heavenly light shine down on me / Down here it's too dark to see / My whole world is burning and I've only my soul / To carry me through whichever way the wind blows." Even if Bruce Springsteen or Steve Earle had devoted a song to this tragedy, I'm not sure they could have done better.

**2. Kimbra, "Settle Down"**

While Kimbra was already finding fame Down Under, she'd remained relatively unknown here in the States until her featured vocals on Gotye's breakthrough "Somebody That I Used to Know" helped make it the best-selling single of 2012. That said, I much prefer this track from her *Vows* album, which showcases a quirky pop sensibility that's a bit less operatic, but no less brilliant, than Kate Bush. With its soaring chorus and intriguing lyrical references to '50s noir film *A Place in the Sun*, "Settle Down" is the most musically developed and emotionally arresting track from a 22-year-old artist whose star continues to rise.

**1. The Coup, "Guillotine"**

"Anger is an energy," Johnny Rotten once snarled, but I'm fairly sure that nothing in the punk-rock canon can match the intensity of this track from Oakland's premiere hip-hop duo. Try this lyric on for size:

*Please sir, may we have another portion?*

*We're children of the beast that dodged the abortion*

*Neck placed firm 'tween the floor and the Florsheim*

*We'll shut your shit down, don't call it extortion*

This irresistibly catchy track comes complete with choppy guitar riffs and infectious vocal chants ("We got the guillotine / You'd better run") that can hold their own against George Clinton's best. Add in a rumbling electrofunk groove that does the Gap Band's "You Dropped a Bomb on Me" one better, and there's no doubt that the Coup has finally outdone itself. Like the song's French Revolution-themed video, which echoes the wildly theatrical aesthetics of Broadway's *The Wiz* and Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*, "Guillotine" is as intoxicating as it is incendiary.

***— bill@csindy.com***

# Playing favorites

## Local music folk weigh in on the year's best

**Lyrick (Kopesetik Soul) — *India Shawn, "Like Nobody Else"***

This track off new artist Indian Shawn's *Origins* EP has a distinctive indie-folk-soul feel that catches your attention and speaks directly to your spirit. With thoughtfully written lyrics, a perfect arrangement and beautifully layered vocals, "Like Nobody Else" is not to be slept on. I couldn't be more excited to have found such an audibly delicious treasure.

**Collin Estes (Lazy Spacemen) — *Bonnie "Prince" Billy, "After I Made Love to You"***

The ever-enigmatic Will Oldham's 2012 *Now Here's My Plan* EP is a collection of new recordings of his earlier material, often drastically re-worked and played with stunning dynamism and tastefulness by his band, which includes backing vocalist Angel Olsen. Perhaps the strongest track, "After I Made Love to You," features colorful, close vocal harmonies, while keyboardist Ben Boye and guitarist Emmett Kelly trade soulful fills in the spaces between the blunt and evocative lyrics. The unsung hero of the track, however, is drummer Van Campbell, whose restraint is like a master class on how dramatic and expressive percussion can be.

**Ryan Spradlin (El Toro de la Muerte) — *Bombay Bicycle Club, "Leave It"***

I'd never heard of Bombay Bicycle Club until I was blown away by their performance at this year's Austin City Limits Festival. I picked up their *A Different Kind of Fix* album and probably listened to it five times in a row. "Leave It" is beautiful and interesting, and not too many songs meet those criteria these days. I like bands that can build layers and soundscapes without sounding pretentious or employing silly noises in order to be "interesting."

**Chris Forsythe (Malakai, Tree of Woe) — *Deftones, "Leathers"***

While *Koi No Yokan* is really strong from front to back, this song epitomizes everything there is to like about Deftones. It's heavy, haunting and beautiful. If the Cure were a metal band, they would sound like this.

**Heather Browne (Fuel/Friends music blog) — *Macklemore, "Same Love"***

In an election year when same-sex marriage remains a hot topic, Seattle hip-hop artist Macklemore supported his state's fight, and also took the discussion into a whole new arena: his genre of music. "If I was gay, I'd think hip-hop hates me," he says in "Same Love," one of most brilliantly honest, thought-provoking and important songs of 2012. Macklemore (Ben Haggerty) may be known more for his playfully clever songs like "Thrift Shop," or the massive brass-band gospel of "Can't Hold Us," but it's impossible to not be moved by the eloquent video for "Same Love" and the sentiment in a lyric like "We may not be the same, but that's not important / No freedom 'til we're equal, damn right I support it."

**Ahmad Mitchell (Fidel RedStar, A Black Day) — *Kimbra, "Settle Down"***

I was in Best Buy looking for new tunes to marinate as I drove through town, and Kimbra's *Vows* album called to me. As soon as I put it in the car CD player, "Settle Down" came through with a force overtaking me. In a time where so many artists are writing about one-night-stands and waxing booties, it was refreshing to hear about commitment, love and having a beautiful child together.

**Steven Huckaby (Inelements) — *Deftones, "Entombed"***

This track from the *Koi No Yokan* album is exactly what I was looking for — and have come to expect — from the Deftones. Chino [Moreno's] pained voice rides atop of the butterfly-like guitar riffs as he captures the feeling of being away from a distant friend or loved one. After more than 20 years, the Deftones are still releasing killer music.

**Damian Burford (*Mostly Harmless* podcast) — *The Menzingers, "Casey"***

Having toured the world with the likes of Rise Against, The Bouncing Souls and Against Me, the Menzingers this year released *On the Impossible Past*, their third LP for the Bad Religion-owned Epitaph Records. The album, which explores the anxiety and excitement of their upward momentum in the punk rock scene, all comes to fruition on the track "Casey," as vocalist Greg Barnett remembers a lost companion and the simpler time they shared. His screams of the protagonist's name in the final moments of the song shake listeners to their very core with his love, pain and uncertainty about the future.

**Austin Richman (Spiritwell) — *Father John Misty, "Misty's Nightmares 1 and 2"***

Josh Tillman left the comfort of the Fleet Foxes' success a year ago and by this past May had put forth his debut album as Father John Misty. My favorite track off of the bittersweet *Fear Fun* is "Misty's Nightmares 1 and 2," which lends an old country-soul vibe to a clap-steady driving rhythm, a slick pedal-steel motif, and a soaring choir-like backing vocal. The warm analogue feel of the overall production highlights the clarity of his aching voice as he sings, "Gonna take my life back one day," a plea Tillman bemoans perhaps in reflection of his real-life challenges in escaping the shadows of his past.

***— scene@csindy.com***

# REVERB

BY BILL FORMAN

First the bad news: The area music scene will have to get by with one less venue this coming winter. **Scott Hunt**, owner and manager of the **Silver Tongue Devil Saloon**, tells us he had to pull the plug on the Green Mountain Falls venue due to financial constraints.

*Joe Johnson covers songs by numerous local artists on his newly released benefit album.*

"I am not sure whether or not I will reopen in a better location," he says, "but it looks grim."

Indeed, while the live music industry as a whole has fared somewhat better than digitally downtrodden major labels, most of those revenues are flowing into the coffers of mega-promoters like **Live Nation** and **AEG**.

The Silver Tongue Devil's closing is especially disappointing in light of the fact that its music bookings were becoming considerably more ambitious. Over the last year, the venue brought in national touring acts like indie-rock hitmakers **Cracker** and New Orleans' prestigious **Joe Krown Trio**. It was also home to numerous local acts, including a reunited **Creating a Newsense** playing a breathing-room-only benefit for Waldo Canyon Fire relief efforts back in August.

Which brings us around to better news. Creating a Newsense co-founder **Joe Johnson**, who booked a number of the Silver Tongue Devil's touring acts this past year, released a new album this past Monday called *A Cold Christmas Moon.* Actually, it's not a Christmas album; the title is taken from **Woody Guthrie**'s "1913 Massacre," which he covers on it.

**Our music scene will have to get by with one less venue this winter.**

What makes this project particularly interesting is the fact that most of the covers are songs by other local musicians, many of whom are making cameo appearances on the album.

Among them are the **Haunted Windchimes**' "Swimming Through a Dream," **Jason Miller**'s "O'Lyda" and **Chauncy Crandall**'s "Vices (Justified Sins)," as well as songs by **Changing Colors**, the **Mexican** and **Broken Spoke.**

"Most of those songs," Johnson tells us, "feature sitins from the original artists, all doing parts differently than usual."

The digital-only collection — which is available for download through Joe's Bandcamp and Facebook pages — is a fundraiser for local children's charity **Life Support**, which is a division of **Catholic Charities** and **Marian House**.

Meanwhile, Colorado Springs composer and recording artist **Steve Barta** has accomplished something that I'm pretty sure no other local musician has managed, at least not during the five years I've been in town. Earlier this month, the **Recording Academy** announced the nominees for the 55th annual **Grammy Awards**. Among the five finalists for **Best Children's Album** is a collaboration between the Colorado College instructor and former **Firefall** member **Mark Oblinger** called *JumpinJazz Kids – A Swinging Jungle Tale.* The album features vocals by **Al Jarreau** and **Dee Dee Bridgewater**, who have 10 Grammy Awards between them, so I have a good feeling about this.

Actually, there'll be *another* Grammy nominee in town this week, albeit just for one night. **Jimmy Hall,** who will headline the **Crystola** with **Kate Moss & Friends** on Friday, picked up a Best Male Vocalist nomination for his work on **Jeff Beck**'s 1986 album *Flash*. More recently, he was backed by **Stevie Ray Vaughn**'s band **Double Triple** on the 2003 *Triple Trouble* album. But for many, Hall's most important credit is as frontman for **Wet Willie**, who scored a hit with "Keep on Smiling" and were arguably the funkiest band to come out of the whole Southern Rock movement.

Then on Saturday, **Midgard** will be splintering the core of night, turning the stars to ash, and engaging in other death metalish activities during the reactivated Colorado band's CD release show at the Black Sheep, with **Try Redemption** and **Nuk-L-Hed** doing opening honors.

And finally, you can catch recent *Indy* cover subject **Grant Sabin** in two very different settings this coming week. He'll be at **Rico's** on Saturday, and then share a bill with **Chauncy Crandall** at **Meadow Muffins' New Year's Eve Bash**, which, with **Dick Clark** being dead and all, just might be your best *Auld Lang Syne* option.

However you end up celebrating, be safe out there, and we'll look forward to seeing you back here again next year.

***Send news, photos and music to reverb@csindy.com; follow our updates at tinyurl.com/indyreverb.***

# PlayingAround

## LIVE MUSIC: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26, 2012, THROUGH TUESDAY, JAN. 1, 2013

### Wednesday 12/26

**Buck's,** *Greywolf and the Howlers Open Mic (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**Club Q,** *Open Mic Night, 10 p.m.*
**Frankie's,** *Open Mic (acoustic)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Front Range,** *Smooth Money Gesture (rock/pop)*, 7:30 p.m.
**Margarita at PineCreek,** *Crystal and the Curious (jazz)*, 7 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *West Side Wednesdays, with Brian Parton (Americana)*, 7 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *Open Mic Night (acoustic)*, 8 p.m., $5.
**Park East,** *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**Penrose Room,** *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz)*, 6:30 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *Rawbert & I (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Twisted Knickers,** *Bluegrass Jam with Banjo Bill (bluegrass)*, 7 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *'80s Dance Nite, hosted by DJ Monster Mike (dance)*, 9 p.m.

### Thursday 12/27

**Adam's,** *Ryan Flores (acoustic)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Ancient Mariner,** *Open Mic with Stolen Idol Productions (acoustic)*, 8 p.m.
**Benny's,** *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band, 9 p.m.*
**Holy Cow,** *Jay-Koh (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Jack Quinn's,** *Brian Clancy (world)*, 7:30 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *Bop Kings (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m., *DeeJayBee & Tony G (dance)*, 8 p.m.
**Mimi's Cafe,** *Acoulectric Trio (jazz)*, 5 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *VC & His Guitar (acoustic)*, 8 p.m., $5-$10.
**Motif,** *Joe Uveges (acoustic)*, 7:15 p.m.
**Pale Horse,** *Ladies Night, feat. DJ Fade (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Park East,** *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**Penrose Room,** *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Rasta King,** *Robby Red Locks & the Reggae Time Machine (world)*, 7 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz)*, 7 p.m.
**Ritz,** *DJ Serge (hip-hop)*, 8 p.m.
**Tavern at The Broadmoor,** *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop)*, 8:30 p.m.

### Friday 12/28

**Adam's,** *Ryan Flores (acoustic)*, 9 a.m.
**Ancient Mariner,** *Blue Skies (jazz)*, 8 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *The Myth of Modern Medicine, Leftmore, December Downfall (rock/pop)*, 7:30 p.m., $5-$7.
**Broadmoor Academy of Music,** *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz)*, 7 p.m.
**Cleats,** *Famous Curve (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**Crystola Roadhouse,** *Jimmy Hall, Kate Moss (blues)*, 8 p.m., $18-$23, $38 VIP.
**Fujiyama,** *Barbara Ernst/Mistura Bela (world)*, 7 p.m.

## VENUE DIRECTORY

**Adam's Mountain Café,** 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430
**Ancient Mariner,** 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503
**Back East Bar & Grill,** 9475 Briar Village Point, 264-6161
**Benny's Restaurant & Lounge,** 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309
**Black Sheep,** 2106 E. Platte Ave., 227-7625
**Brewer's Republic,** 112 N. Nevada Ave., 633-2105
**Broadmoor Academy of Music,** 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979
**Buck's Mountain Saloon & Grill,** 116 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 686-1212
**Cleats Sports Bar & Grill,** 6624 Delmonico Drive, 548-8267
**Club Q,** 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429
**Country Bar,** 606 S. Santa Fe Ave., Fountain, 382-5361
**Crystola Roadhouse,** 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879
**Cucuru Gallery Café,** 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900
**Double Eagle Hotel and Casino,** 442 E. Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek, 689-5000
**The Famous,** 31 N. Tejon St., 227-7333
**Frankie's Bar & Grill,** 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881
**Front Range Barbeque,** 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596
**Fujiyama,** 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167
**Holy Cow Pub & Grill,** 5885 Stetson Hills Blvd., 465-1704
**Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub,** 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766
**Kasey's Bar & Grill,** 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128
**Keg Lounge,** 730 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-9531
**Kinfolks Mountain Shop,** 950 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-4433
**Margarita at PineCreek,** 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
**Meadow Muffins,** 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583
**Mimi's Cafe,** 7133 N. Academy Blvd., 590-1357
**MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge,** 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
**Motif,** 2432 Cucharras St.,

**Got a live music event readers should know about?** Send us the band/musician, where they're playing and when, how much it will cost and a contact phone number — by Wednesday at

**Jack Quinn's,** *Pandora Celtica (folk)*, 9:30 p.m.
**Kasey's,** *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B)*, 9 p.m.
**Kinfolks,** *Brian Parton (Americana)*, 8 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *DeeJayBee (dance)*, 8 p.m., *Lipstick Voodoo (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *Jeff Smith (acoustic)*, 8 p.m., $5-$10.
**Motif,** *Brad Bietry Jazz Trio (jazz)*, 7:45 p.m.
**Penrose Room,** *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Rawkus,** *Impulse Friday, feat. Designer Drugs, Joman and Parrish (dance)*, 8 p.m., $10-$20.
**Red Martini,** *Dick Cunico (jazz)*, 8 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Adam Gang Jazz Trio (jazz)*, 7:30 p.m.
**Ritz,** *DJ Tony G (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Sky Box Lounge,** *Jeff "Fitty" Smith (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**Sonterra,** *John Stone (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *6035 (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**Sunshine Studios,** *Free New Year's Concert, feat. Hero Kid, Darkness Within, The Hardway (rock/pop)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Tavern at The Broadmoor,** *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Townhouse,** *D-Day Invasion (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**V Bar,** *DJ Gravity (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Wyatt's,** *Jeff Sempek (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *Audible, Stoney Beers (rock)*, 9 p.m., $5

## Saturday 12/29

**Back East,** *Arch Hooks (R&B)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Benny's,** *Brian Parton (Americana)*, 8 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *Midgard (metal)*, 7:30 p.m., $5-$7.
**Brewer's Republic,** *SOUL, feat. Mike Devious, DJ Vic M (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Cleats,** *Famous Curve (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**Crystola Roadhouse,** *Inman Brothers (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Cucuru Gallery Café,** *The Flipsides (blues)*, 9 p.m.
**Fujiyama,** *DJ Ron Perry (jazz)*, 6 p.m.
**Jack Quinn's,** *DJ Rob G (dance)*, 9:30 p.m.
**Kinfolks,** *COW (bluegrass)*, 8 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *Lincoln with DJ Tony G (dance)*, 9 p.m., *Atomic Drifters (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *Seven X (acoustic)*, 8 p.m., $5-$10.
**Motif,** *Tribe (jazz)*, 7:45 p.m.
**Penrose Room,** *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Pikes Peak Brewing Co.,** *Mark's Midnight Carnival Show (indie)*, 7 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Grant Sabin (blues)*, 7:30 p.m.
**Ritz,** *DJ Serge (hip-hop)*, 8 p.m.
**Sonterra,** *John Stone (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *6035 (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**Tavern at The Broadmoor,** *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Townhouse,** *Spider Murphy (blues)*, 8 p.m.
**V Bar,** *DJ Gravity (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Wyatt's,** *TJ and the Hot Chick (acoustic)*, 8 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *Send 'Em Down, Duckling Fantasy (metal)*, 8 p.m., $5

## Sunday 12/30

**Jack Quinn's,** *Traditional Irish Session (world)*, 3 p.m.
**Retired Enlisted Association,** *Blues Jam with the Tracy Quinn Band (rock/pop)*, 3 p.m.
**Tavern at The Broadmoor,** *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Tony's,** *NateStarr and TaylorLee (dance)*, 9:30 p.m.
**Urban Steam,** *Acoustic Open Mic (acoustic)*, 1 p.m.

## Monday 12/31

**Ancient Mariner,** *New Year's Eve Party with Big Sky Shakedown (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**Cleats,** *New Year's Eve Party, with Famous Curve (rock/pop)*, 7 p.m.
**Country Bar,** *Exit West (country)*, 8 p.m.
**Double Eagle,** *Dick Cunico's Little Big Band (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m.
**The Famous,** *John Wise, Ken Jansen, Susan Rissman, Randy Bowen (blues)*, 8:30 p.m.
**Jack Quinn's,** *Ceol Ceili (folk)*, 5 p.m., *New Year's Eve with Delilah's Revenge (folk)*, 9:30 p.m.
**Keg,** *Lipstick Voodoo (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *New Year's Bash, with Grant Sabin and Chauncy Crandall (blues)*, 9 p.m., *DeeJayBee (dance)*, 9 p.m.
**Motif,** *New Year's Eve with Steve Draper (jazz)*, 8 p.m.
**Rawkus,** *Rawkus New Year's Event, feat. Peaks and Pasties, Frank Farinaro, Sherri Wheatley (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m., $15-$20.
**Ritz,** *DJ Party Marty (hip-hop)*, 8 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *Less than Zero (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**Stargazers,** *New Year's Eve, with The Martini Shot (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m., $25-$40.
**Townhouse,** *Latigo (country)*, 8 p.m.
**Union Station,** *Some People's Kids, 7:30 p.m., $5., GOYA (rock/pop)*, 11 p.m., $5.
**Ute,** *One Eleven (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.
**V Bar,** *Charlie Milo & DJ Gravity New Year's Eve Party (dance)*, 8 p.m.
**Will Rogers Lounge,** *The Mighty Kingsnakes, with Carlos Crull (blues)*, 9 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *New Year's Eve Prom with DJ Father Time (dance)*, 8 p.m.

## Tuesday 1/1

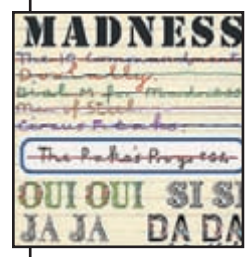
**Adam's,** *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic)*, 6:30 p.m.
**Townhouse,** *Open Mic (acoustic)*, 9 p.m.

# BigGigs

**The Beach Boys**, Pikes Peak Center, Dec. 28 • **Jimmy Hall, Kate Moss**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, Dec. 28 • **Trombone Shorty**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Dec. 28 • **Elephant Revival**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Dec. 28-29 • **STS9**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, Dec. 29-31 • **Lumineers**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Dec. 30-31 • **John Gorka**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Jan. 4 • **Father John Misty**, Black Sheep, Jan. 5 • **Black Veil Brides**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Jan. 7 • **Justin Bieber, Carly Rae Jepsen**, Pepsi Center, Denver, Jan. 7 • **Hollywood Undead**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Jan. 12 • **Blackalicious**, Marquis Theater, Denver, Jan. 18 • **Reverend Horton Heat**, Black Sheep, Jan. 18 • **Blackberry Smoke**, Summit Music Hall, Denver, Jan. 19 • **Calexico**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Jan. 19 • **The Walkmen**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Jan. 21 • **Bloc Party**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Jan. 22 • **Ben Folds Five**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Jan. 23 • **Tribal Seeds**, Black Sheep, Jan. 23 • **Sea Wolf**, Black Sheep, Jan. 24 • **Cute Is What We Aim For**, Black Sheep, Jan. 25 • **Switchback**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Jan. 26 • **The Toasters**, Black Sheep, Jan. 28 • **The Overseer**, Black Sheep, Jan. 30 • **Iration**, Black Sheep, Jan. 31 • **Pennywise**, Black Sheep, Feb. 1 • ***Winter on the Rocks*, with Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, Major Lazer**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, Feb. 1 • **Kraddy**, Black Sheep, Feb. 2 • **Hatebreed**, Black Sheep, Feb. 5 • **The Growlers**, Black Sheep, Feb. 7 • **Ken Stringfellow**, Moe's Original Bar B Que, Englewood, Feb. 7 • **Fred Hersch**, Dazzle Restaurant and Lounge, Denver, Feb. 7-8 • **El Ten Eleven**, Black Sheep, Feb. 10 • **The Who**, Pepsi Center, Denver, Feb. 12 • **Carrie Underwood**, World Arena, Feb. 13 • **Michael Johnson**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Feb. 17 • **Stone Sour, Papa Roach**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, Feb. 17 • **Morrissey**, Buell Theatre, Denver, Feb. 21 • ***Rock & Worship Roadshow*, with MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Tedashii**, World Arena, Feb. 21 • **Savoy**, Boulder Theater, Boulder, Feb. 23 • **Toro y Moi**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Feb. 23 • **Passion Pit**, 1STBANK Center, Broomfield, March 1 • **PANTyRAID**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 2 • **Adrian Legg**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 10 • **Imagine Dragons**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 23 • **Alt-J**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 3 • **The Doobie Brothers**, Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Fleetwood Mac**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 1 •

*Trombone Shorty will be playing Denver's Ogden Theatre Dec. 28.*

# SoundAdvice




**Madness**
*Oui Oui Si Si Ja Ja Da Da*
*eOne Music*
**File next to:** Squeeze, General Public

In the states, Madness had one brief brush with major success via its 1983 single "Our House." But the U.K. is a different story, where the group, despite a 1988-92 hiatus, retains its popularity as a source of often humorous, somewhat offbeat and entertaining pop. This 10th studio album shows there's plenty of life left in the group. "Misery" recaptures the spunk and catchiness of their early ska revivalism, while the remainder of the album echoes their later pop approach. The richly melodic mid-temp "Circus Freaks" is the album's clear standout track. "My Girl 2" adds a pleasantly bouncy Motown-ish feel. The group's melancholy side surfaces on the Bacharach-ish "Never Knew Your Name," which captures the feel of their British hit "It Must Be Love." And "Kitchen Floor" is darkly hued with a reggae lilt. Overall, this is one of the better efforts from a group that always deserved more stateside recognition than it's gotten. — ***Alan Sculley***

**Stag**
*Stag*
*Fin Records*
**File next to:** Cheap Trick, Big Star

Stag is a well-pedigreed band fronted by Steve Mack from That Petrol Emotion, the acclaimed U.K. group who influenced bands like Radiohead and the Stone Roses. So it makes sense that this new Seattle-based band's full-length debut doesn't sound like the work of rookies. It's classic guitar-based power-pop, with serious vocal hooks, catchy guitar riffs and crisp tempos. "Tiffany Rose" rocks hardest, while "These Times" soars on big, bright guitar riffs. Other highlights include "Chameleons" (a snappy rocker that may remind some of Cheap Trick's "I Want You To Want Me"), "Ides of March" (an anthem with touches of Who-like majesty), and "Don't Lead With Your Heart" (which echoes the graceful melody and pop crunch of groups like Big Star and the Raspberries). Admittedly, Stag's style of power pop isn't that original. But with songs this catchy, energized and well crafted, that's not even an issue. — ***Alan Sculley***

**Tyvek**
*On Triple Beams*
*In the Red*
**File next to:** Gang of Four, the Fall

While listening to *On Triple Beams*, words like primitive, rudimentary, ragged and unschooled immediately spring to mind. But those aren't necessarily bad things given the raucous mix of post-punk and garage rock that Tyvek makes. What makes it all work is the Detroit band's knack for writing big — albeit simple — melodic hooks that come through the shard-like guitar riffs on songs like "Returns," "Scaling" and "Wayne County Roads." There are also bashed-out drums and declamatory vocals that sweeten the mix in their own sharply barked-out way. It's all topped off by rather sludgy production in which the vocals slur and the guitars are rough and overdriven to the point of distortion. If you come to this album looking for polished production, evolved musicianship or complex lyrical expression, expect to be disappointed. But for a rocking, if sloppy, fun time, Tyvek has your number. — ***Alan Sculley***

635-5635
**Pale Horse Bar and Lounge,** 204 N. Union Blvd., 465-2005
**Park East Restaurant,** 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655
**Penrose Room at The Broadmoor,** 1 Lake Ave., 577-5773
**Pikes Peak Brewing Co.,** 1756 Lake Woodmoor Drive, 208-4098
**Rasta King Seafood Bar and Grill,** 675 S. Circle Drive, 344-4447
**Rawkus,** 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000
**Red Martini,** 25 N. Tejon St., 634-3522
**Retired Enlisted Association,** 834 Emory Circle, 596-0927
**Rico's Café and Wine Bar,** 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549
**Ritz Grill,** 15 S. Tejon St., 635-8484
**The Sky Box Lounge,** 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815
**Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill,** 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222
**SouthSide Johnny's,** 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487
**Stargazers Theatre and Event Center,** 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200
**Sunshine Studios,** 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921
**Tavern at The Broadmoor,** 1 Lake Ave., 577-5772
**Tony's Bar,** 311 N. Tejon St., 228-6566
**Townhouse Lounge,** 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085
**Twisted Knickers Pub,** 2405 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 633-1400
**Union Station,** 2419 N. Union Blvd., 227-7168
**Urban Steam Coffee Bar,** 1025 S. Sierra Madre St., 473-7832
**Ute Inn,** 204 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 687-1465
**V Bar,** 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599
**Will Rogers Lounge at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort,** 3225 Broadmoor Valley Road, 538-4000
**Wyatt's Pub & Grill,** 806 Village Center Drive, 598-4100
**Zodiac,** 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059

noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events monthly, they won't run. **Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.**

VOTED BEST VENUE IN THE SPRINGS!
THE BLACK SHEEP
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ON SALE THIS WEEK!
TWENTY ONE PILOTS - FEB 16 (ON SALE NOW)
A SILENT FILM - FEB 19 (ON SALE NOW)
NATTY VIBES - FEB 24 (ON SALE SAT)
SUMERIAN RECORDS BATTLE OF THE BANDS - MAR 5 (ON SALE NOW)
CLUTCH - MAR 18 (ON SALE NOW)
Fri, Dec. 28th - 7:30pm
THE MYTH OF MODERN MEDICINE
FEAT: LEFTMORE, DECEMBER DOWNFALL, AMERICAN MOURNING
Sat, Dec. 29th - 7:30pm
MIDGARD CD RELEASE SHOW!
MIDGARD
FEAT: TRY REDEMPTION, NUK-L-HED
Fri, Jan. 4th - 7:30pm
WHY THEY FIGHT
FEAT: TAKE IT TO 88, THE GREAT HOTEL FIRE
Sat, Jan. 5th - 8:00pm
KRGG PRESENTS
FATHER JOHN MISTY
FEATURING: MAGIC TRICK, EL TORO DE LA MUERTE
Fri, Jan. 11th - 7:30pm
TILL WE RISE
FEATURING: LIBERATOR, TELLING FALSE TIME, FORSAKE IT ALL
Fri, Jan. 18th - 8:00pm
REVEREND HORTON HEAT
FEATURING: RENO DIVORCE
Wed, Jan. 23rd - 7:00pm
TRIBAL SEEDS
FEATURING: STICK FIGURE, THE MAAD T-RAY, OFFBEAT REVOLUTION
Thu, Jan. 24th - 8:00pm
KRGG PRESENTS
SEA WOLF
FEATURING: THE DONNIES THE AMYS, WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT,
Fri, Jan. 25th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP
CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR
FEATURING: SAVING VERONA
Sat, Jan. 26th - 7:00pm
NONPOINT
FEAT: CANDLELIGHT RED, DIGITAL SUMMER
Sun, Jan. 27th - 8:00pm
MARTY PARTY
FEATURING: SPECIAL GUESTS
Mon, Jan. 28th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP
THE TOASTERS
FEATURING: MRS. SKANNOTTO
UPCOMING EVENTS
JAN 30 - THE OVERSEER, FIT FOR A KING
JAN 31 - IRATION
FEB 1 - PENNYWISE
FEB 2 - KRADDY
FEB 3 - THE ROUGE
FEB 5 - HATEBREED
FEB 7 - THE GROWLERS
FEB 10 - EL TEN ELEVEN
FEB 13 - THE ROUGE
FEB 16 - TWENTY ONE PILOTS
FEB 19 - A SILENT FILM
FEB 22 - BALLYHOO!
FEB 24 - NATTY VIBES
FEB 25 - TREMONTI
MAR 5 - SUMERIAN RECORDS BATTLE OF THE BANDS
MAR 8 - CURRENT SWELL
MAR 9 - THE DIRTY HEADS, SHINY TOY GUNS
MAR 10 - SALVADOR SANTANA
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ppld.org
Wendy's

# Listings

PICK Indicates our recommendations for this week.

## YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

## ArtEvents

**Big Picture Discussion Group,** join others to talk about art and spirituality. Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, tinyurl.com/cs6lo26.

**Cottonwood Center for the Arts classes,** offering courses on topics including: painting, drawing, art marketing, writing, digital media, mixed media and more. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

## ArtExhibits

**Academy Frame Company,** 7620 N. Academy Blvd., 265-6694, academyframeco.com. *Under the Influence*, an exhibition of the watercolor and mixed-media work of Carol Naylor, Gayle Higgins and Jan Hunt-Dawson. Through Dec. 31.

**All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church,** 730 N. Tejon St., 633-7717, asuuc.net. Great Hall Art Display, a collection of paintings by local artist Lois Cunliffe available for viewing and purchase on weekday mornings. Enter through ramp door at rear of church. Through Jan. 17.

**Business of Art Center,** 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. *The Artist's Studio*, an exhibit centering on "Innovation, Ideas, Methods and Materials from Fine Art Adult Educators," featuring works from instructors at local studios, community colleges, universities, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and the Business of Art Center. BAC Annual Holiday Show, a wide selection of works from BAC regulars in ceramics, painting, glass, prints and mixed media. *Dave Wyzenbeek: Recent Works*, an exploration of faith, self and the subconscious in monotypes and drawings from the Denver artist. All shows through Jan. 19.

PICK ***Busker and Me,*** the adventures of one mischievous puppet dog who wants to join the circus. Mon., Dec. 31 and Jan. 2-6. $10.50. Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St., 465-6321, themat.org.

**Commonwheel Artists Co-op,** 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com. *Commonwheel Artists Co-op Annual Holiday Market*, a show and sale of gift-able artwork by over 35 Colorado artists. Through Jan. 6.

**Cottonwood Center for the Arts,** 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com. *Pikes Peak Watercolor Society*, an exhibition of works from the local organization. Through Jan. 8.

**CSU-Pueblo's Fine Art Gallery,** 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2404, chass.colostate-pueblo.edu/Art/Galleries/Pages/Galleries.aspx. *Voices: A Retrospective*, a comprehensive solo show from Pueblo artist the Poet Spiel, who excels in visual art, poetry and spoken word. Through Jan. 18.

**Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College,** 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, laura.ben-amots@ppcc.edu, ppcc.edu/departments/art/ppcc-art-gallery. *Symphony*, the winter student exhibition from the art department of Pikes Peak Community College. Through Feb. 7.

**Hayden Hays Broadmoor Galleries,** 1 Lake Circle, 577-5744, haydenhaysgallery.com. *Colorado Artists*, a selection of new works from local artists. Through Dec. 31.

**Kreuser Gallery,** 218 W. Colorado Ave., 630-6347, abigailkreusergallery.com. *Iconic*, an exhibition of works by Tish Lacy Reed. Next door, in the AHA Gallery, find a show of paintings by Tylan Troyer.

**Mardosz Fine Art Gallery,** 109 S. Corona St., mardoszfineart.com. *Miniatures Show*, a series of small paintings by Chuck Mardosz, Eric Michaels, Richard Dahlquist and Dean Mabe. Through Dec. 31.

**Sangre de Cristo Arts Center,** 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org. *Own Your Own Art Show & Sale*, Sangre's annual art bonanza, with walls filled top to bottom with reasonably priced artwork for the holidays. Through Dec. 29.

PICK **Shears,** 334 N. Nevada Ave., 633-4273, shearsbarbershop.com. *Abstract Expressions*, new paintings from local artists Sheary Clough Suiter and Nard Claar. Through Jan. 1.

**Swirl Wine Bar,** 717 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-2294, swirlismybar.com. *Brie Filler Photography Show*, an exhibit of cleverly shot urban landscapes from photographer Brie Filler. Sat., Dec. 29, 7-9 p.m.

## Auditions&Entries

**Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center** seeks submissions of new scripts for its April program, *Rough Writers: A New Play Fest*. *Rough Writers* will feature new scripts based on three works of art in the museum. After the Fest, the winning play will be staged during the FAC Theatre Company's 2013-2014 season. More information available online. Submissions due: Feb. 14. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, roughwriters@csfineartscenter.org, csfineartscenter.org.

**Commonwheel Artists Co-op** seeks artists to bring their seconds for its upcoming *Pots by the Pound* show and sale. Intake will be held Wed., Jan. 9 and Thurs., Jan. 10 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It also seeks a 3-D artist or potter to show in the

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WEDNESDAY 32/7
THURSDAY 35/15
FRIDAY 32/13
SATURDAY 37/15
SUNDAY 42/19

gallery. Those who have applied before and been denied are encouraged to reapply, as the co-op's needs are always changing. Call or go online for information and requirements. Deadline: Jan. 14. Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com.

**Cottonwood Center for the Arts** seeks submissions for its upcoming Cajun and Carnival Mardi Gras-themed art show opening Jan. 25. Intake Jan. 17-18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. $10 per piece submitted; $50 prize for best in show. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com/cajun-and-carnival.

**Pikes Peak Opera League** seeks applicants for its annual Young Voice Competition, which rewards the talent of singers age 16-19 in El Paso County with cash prizes and the chance to attend a master class. Entry deadline Feb. 8; visit website for application details. 579-6999, pikespeakoperaleague.org.

## Clubs&Organizations

**Black Cat Books' Knitting Group,** a weekly celebration of yarn and stitchery, now at Black Cat Books' new location in the BAC. E-mail RSVP requested. Sundays, 4-6 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, Natalie@BlackCatBooks.com, thebac.org.

**Colorado Native Club,** a gathering for native Coloradans over a potluck dinner with a presentation on state history and culture. Fourth Thursday of every month, beginning in January, 5:45-7:30 p.m. Free, $10 per year to join. Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle, 632-6806, innatgardenplaza.com.

**MMJ-Patient Meeting,** an open gathering from Coloradans 4 Cannabis Patient Rights. Last Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. Free. Lofty's, 287 E. Fountain Blvd., #100, 271-8430, c4cpr.org.

**MS Support Groups,** offering five support groups around the region for those living with MS and their caregivers. For locations and information call 633-4603. Multiple Sclerosis Alliance of Southern Colorado, 1322 N. Academy Blvd., #119, 633-4603, msasoco.org.

**National Organization of the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Colorado Springs,** a support group for families of persons with mental illness. First and third Tuesday of every month, 7-8:30 p.m. NAMI Office, 510 E. Willamette Ave., 473-8477, namicoloradosprings.org.

**Networking Groups,** Pikes Peak Job Search Networking Group meets Mondays, 10 a.m. to noon. 50+ Job Seekers Group meets Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon. Free. Citizens Service Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Road, 636-0000, dhs.elpasoco.com.

**Pikes Peak Jugglers,** an informal group of jugglers ranging in skill from beginners to pros. Non-members are welcome. Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Free. Informal gatherings open to all ages and skill levels. Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Downtown YMCA, 207 N. Nevada Ave., 477-9978, ppymca.org.

**Sons of Italy Pikes Peak,** a monthly meeting of the service and advocacy organization for people of Italian descent. Held at VFW Post 101 (702 S. Tejon St.). First Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. 481-8623.

**WINGS,** offering therapist-facilitated support groups for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse in which survivors are believed and accepted. A women's group is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30. 800/373-8671, wingsfound.org.

## Comedy&Improv

**Bill Blank,** Dec. 28-30. $2-$10, two-item minimum. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

## Concerts

**Jazz Nite,** an evening of wines, desserts and music from Conservatory faculty and students plus a few surprise guests. Sat., Dec. 29, 7 p.m. $10. Colorado Springs Conservatory, 415 S. Sahwatch St., 577-4556, csconservatory.org.

***New Year's Eve ¡En Fuego!,*** a New Year's trip to España with Music Director Josep Caballé-Domenech and the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 p.m. $19-$59. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, csphilharmonic.org.

## DanceParties&Classes

**CommuniDance,** a free-form dance group. Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. By donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, movementartscs.com.

**Dance Into the Weekend Party,** Second and Fourth Friday of every month, 8-11 p.m. $8. All About Dance, 2318 Vickers Drive, 598-0885 or 344-0764, allaboutdanceco.com.

**Scottish Country Dance,** held on the lower level. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. $5, first class free. International Dance Club, 2422 Busch Ave., 310-1784, internationaldanceclub.org.

**Senior +55 Dance,** weekly dances with music from the '40s, '50s and '60s. Tuesdays, 6-10:30 p.m. $3 per person (or $5 for two). Retired Enlisted Association, 834 Emory Circle, 596-0927, treaone.org.

PICK **Electric Safari,** a chance to appreciate the 1 million lights spread across the zoo, including more than 40 animated sculptures. Zookeepers will be available, as well as select exhibits. Through Jan. 1, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, 4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, 633-9925, cmzoo.org.

**Swing in the Springs,** beginner and intermediate swing dance classes covering a variety of styles, followed by a free East Coast Swing class and a DJed dance. Casual dress, but no street shoes. Sundays, 7:30-10 p.m. $6. VFW Hall, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 210-4697, swinginthesprings.com.

**Tango Lessons,** offering lessons Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900, cucurugallerycafe.com.

**Waltz Lessons,** offering free and low-cost waltz lessons for patterned dances. Go online for a schedule. Call to sign up. 598-2885, 592-1418, broadmoorwaltzclub.com/default.html.

## Food&Drink

**Bordeaux Blend Wine Dinner,** a paired dinner from Mozaic's Chef Scarlett and Dirk of the Wine Seller, highlighting Bordeaux-style wines from around the world. Reservations recommended. Fri., Dec. 28, 7 p.m. $55. moZaic, 443 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-1800, innatpalmerdivide.com/index.htm.

**Hungarian Winemakers Dinner,** from the chefs of Craftwood paired with wines from Nimrod Kovac. Reservations required. Fri., Dec. 28, 6:30 p.m. $60. Craftwood Inn, 404 El Paso Blvd., Manitou Springs, 685-9000, craftwood.com.

**New Year's Eve Dinner,** a special four-course prix-fixe menu for the holiday. Reservations required. Mon., Dec. 31, 5-11 p.m. $55. The Blue Star, 1645 S. Tejon St., 632-1086, thebluestar.net.

**Old Colorado City Wine-Bar Tour,** a two-block tour of six OCC venues and six wines paired with food. Thursdays, 5 p.m.; through Dec. 27. $48. shopoldcoloradocity.com.

## GetInvolved

**Dog-Friendly Open House,** a chance to enjoy the xeriscape gardens, snack and socialize (with or without your fuzzy companion) with the great


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Saturday, January 5th

Flamenco

...with María Vázquez

musical performance and dance workshop

Flamenco workshop tailored for both beginners and advanced dancers

Tickets: $20 advance tickets $25 day of event

Workshop begins at 5pm

Flamenco dance and music performance featuring María Vázquez Flamenco Denver

Tickets: $20 advance tickets $25 day of event

Event begins at 8pm

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PICK **Denver Art Museum,** 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy., Denver, 720/865-5000, denverartmuseum.org. *El Anatsui: When I Last Wrote to You about Africa*, a retrospective of this African artist, which includes 65 works, made from found objects like scrap metal, bottle caps, wood and other salvaged items. Through Dec. 30. *Dana Schutz: If the Face Had Wheels*, a career survey of this young artist, "recognized for her voracious imagination, strong subject matter and vibrant color palette." Through Jan. 13. *Becoming Van Gogh*, a groundbreaking show chronicling the famous artist's self-taught career. The show — developed by the DAM — features about 70 Van Goghs and 20 works by artists who influenced him. Through Jan. 20.

folks from Safe Place for Pets, serving the pets of the terminally ill in Colorado Springs. Free 2013 SF4P calendar for visitors who donate through Indy Give! Sat., Dec. 29, 2-4 p.m. Summerland Gardens, 124 E. Cheyenne Road, 477-0267, info@safeplacepets.org, indygive.com/safeplace.

## Health&Healing

**Alcoholics Anonymous,** a meeting of men and women sharing their experiences, strength and hope to help each other overcome alcoholism. Mondays, 5:30 p.m. The Pride Center, 2508 E. Bijou St., aa@yourpridecenter.org.

**Energy Healing: An Experiential Workshop,** a hands-on class that discusses and practices the various forms of energy healing. Last Thursday of every month, 6:30-9 p.m. $10. Celebration Community Room, 2207 W. Colorado Ave., 465-3536, celebrationstore.com.

**Free Depression Support Groups,** offering 10 peer-led support groups weekly, hosted by the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Colorado Springs. Call or go online for more information. Ongoing. 477-1515, dbsacoloradosprings.org.

**GLBQTA Yoga,** exercise in a safe and empowering environment friendly toward beginners. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. Donations welcome. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 304-9130, info@yogajuan.com.

**Light Your Fire,** a yoga event with Thia Luby, with discussion of the Hindu god Agni as a way of conceptualizing the heat that builds within the body in each asana. Sat., Dec. 29, 2-4 p.m. $15. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, facebook.com/events/118372341657546.

**Manitou Yoga,** Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8 a.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

## Holiday

**15th Annual Holiday Headframe Lighting,** a true frontier holiday tradition featuring the 1890s-vintage headframes of the mines around Cripple Creek and Victor all lit up now through New Year's. Take a self-guided tour or visit either of the historic towns for a variety of seasonal activities — visit the website for tour map or e-mail for more information. Weekend nights only, weather permitting. Through Dec. 31. 689-2675, stcfg@victorcolorado.com, victorcolorado.com.

***Away in the Manger,*** a new holiday production with wine and desserts from the Colorado Springs Conservatory's celebrated cabaret trio, *Manger Avec Trois*. A little naughty, a lot of fun, adults only. Thurs., Dec. 27, 7 p.m. $25. Colorado Springs Conservatory, 415 S. Sahwatch St., 577-4556, csconservatory.org.

***A Christmas Carol,*** a puppet production of the classic Dickens tale, featuring all hand-made marionettes. Through Dec. 31. Simpich Showcase, 2413 W. Colorado Ave., 465-2492, simpich.com.

***A Cripple Creek Christmas Carol,*** a production of this original play that debuted at the Butte in 2002. The show will be followed by a Christmas olio. Through Dec. 30. $8.25-$13.25. Butte Theater, 139 E. Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek, buttetheater.com.

**Early New Year's Eve Celebration,** a party to ring out 2012 with Dotsero, dinner and more. Reservations required. Sat., Dec. 29, 7 p.m. $25-$30. Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, trilakesarts.org.

**Glitter and Gold New Year's Event,** a festive event promoting Yobel International's global development work, featuring desserts, dancing, a photo booth, parlor games and a champagne fountain. Ticket sales end Dec. 28. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 p.m. $40-50. The Warehouse Restaurant and Gallery, 25 W. Cimarron St., 433-1318, info@yobelmarket.com, yobelmarket.com.

**New Year's Bash,** a celebration featuring prize giveaways and a midnight champagne toast. Pre-order tickets to receive free dinner or bottle of champagne. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 p.m. $15-20. Cowboys, 25 N. Tejon St., 596-1212, cowboyscs.com/concerts-and-events.

**New Year's Eve Dance,** a ballroom dance for the new year, with appetizers, a champagne toast and live music from the Chuck Spurlock Band. Reservations close Dec. 26. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. $17. International Dance Club, 2422 Busch Ave., 633-0195, internationaldanceclub.org.

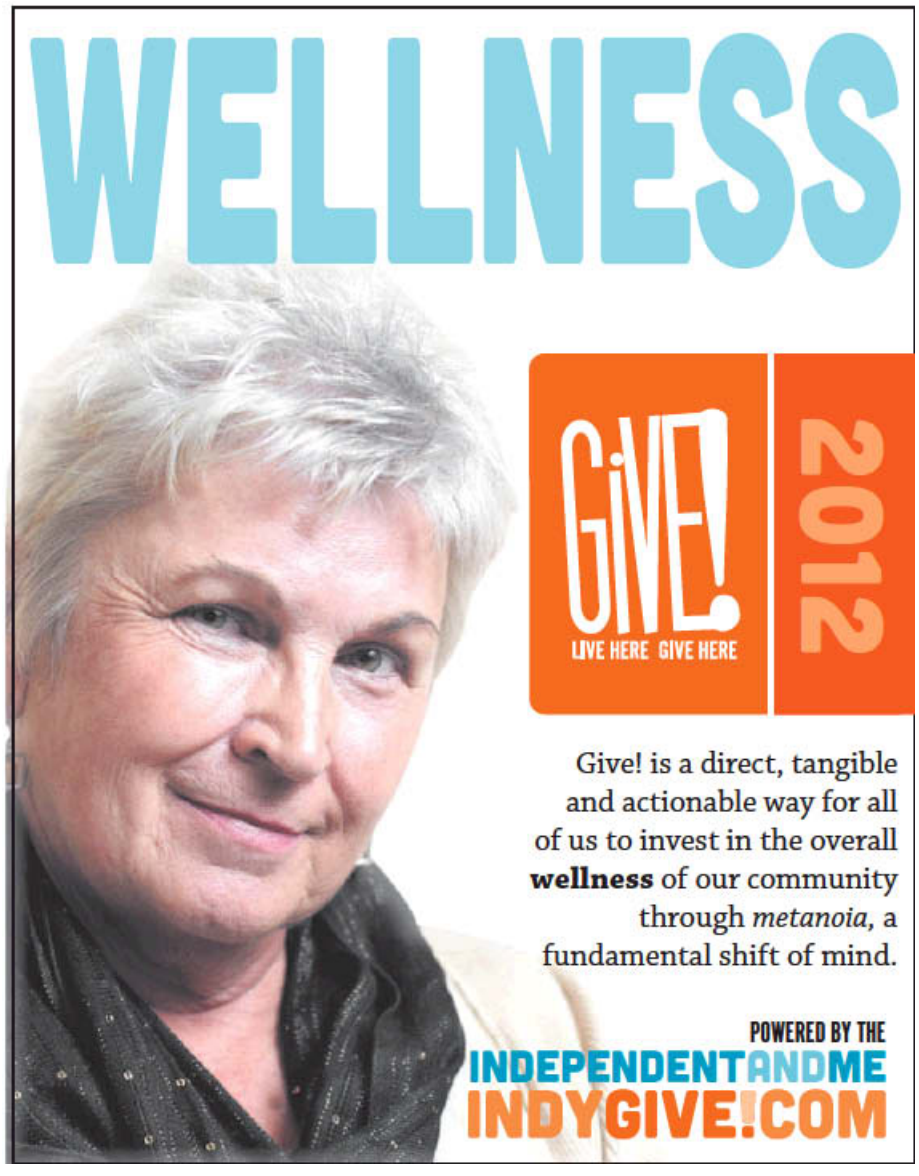
**New Year's Eve Dueling Pianos,** two performances by Troy Baldwin and Kirk Garrett, the latter offering food, party favors and champagne at midnight. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 and 10:30 p.m. $25-$60 per couple. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

**New Year's Eve Gala Ball,** a semi-formal dinner dance with live '50s-'60s music from The Nostalgics. Mon., Dec. 31, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. $60. Marriott, 5580 Tech Center Drive, 570-0761, magicalproductionsllc.myevent.com.

**New Year's Eve Midnight Masquerade,** a countdown to the end of the 2012 Indy Give! campaign with the fun-loving members of Springs Ensemble Theatre. Snazzy clothes, masks, hors d'oeuvres and live music are the order of the day, and the $20 suggested donation directly benefits SET's next theatre season. Mon., Dec. 31, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. $20. Springs Ensemble Theatre, 1903 E. Cache La Poudre St., 357-3080, indygive.com/set.

**Noon Year's Eve Presented by Pikes Peak Children's Museum,** a New Year's party for kids, with a countdown to high noon, a balloon drop, snacks, entertainment and more. Mon., Dec. 31, 11 a.m. $13 per family. Colorado Springs City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St., 266-6412, tinyurl.com/cn2tuw3.

**Resurrection: A New Age of Fetish,** an evening of special performances and demonstrations throughout the nightclub, plus a midnight bal-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loon drop and cash prizes. Mon., Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. $10. Underground, 110 N. Nevada Ave., 578-0393, undergroundbars.com/special.html.

**Sterling and Sapphire New Year's Eve Gala,** an evening of dinner and dancing to live music by Phat Daddy and the Phat Horn Doctors to benefit Christmas Unlimited, a local nonprofit providing toys and other holiday assistance to underprivileged families since 1923. Mon., Dec. 31, 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. $85. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., 576-8900, rstovall1@hotmail.com, christmasunlimited.org.

## Kids&Family

**Full Moon Tour,** a tour of the facility and a meet-and-greet with one of its wolves, with coffee and cocoa. Wear warm clothing, and bring a flashlight and camera. Children under 8 not permitted. Reservations required. Sat., Dec. 29, 4 p.m. $15-$25. Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, 4729 Twin Rocks Road, Divide, 687-9742, wolfeducation.org.

**Ready? Set. Mine That Cookie!,** a chance to learn real-life business skills from the world of mining while racing other teams to mine chocolate chips from cookies. Reservations required. Thurs., Dec. 27, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. $4-8. Western Museum of Mining and Industry, 225 Northgate Blvd., 488-0880, rsvp@wmmi.org, wmmi.org.

## Lectures&Learning

**Pikes Peak Workforce Center classes,** offering courses on topics such as: applying for federal jobs, preparing for job interviews, building a better résumé and more. Pikes Peak Workforce Center, Citizens Service Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Road, #1107, 667-3700, ppwfc.org.

**Senior Resource Development Agency Classes,** registering now for classes and sessions including line dancing, computer skills, painting, quilting and more. See the online calendar for current events. Senior Resource Development Agency, 230 N. Union Ave., Pueblo, 719/545-8900, srda.org.

## Museums&Attractions

**Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum,** 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org. *To the Moon: Snoopy Soars With NASA*, an exhibit exploring the events leading up to the 1969 moon landing and the role Charles M. Schulz's Peanuts characters played in the Apollo 10 launch and the NASA Manned Flight Awareness safety program. Schultz was also once a Springs resident, which will be another part of the show. Through April 20.

**National Museum of World War II Aviation,** 755 Aviation Way, 637-7559, worldwarIIaviation.org. Tours of this new museum featuring aircraft from the WWII era, including a P47D Thunderbolt and TBM Avenger, as well as aircraft undergoing restoration, such as the P38 Lightning. The museum is open three days a week currently, and offers docent-led tours Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. $5-$10, free for WWII generation.

**Western Museum of Mining and Industry,** 225 Northgate Blvd., 488-0880, wmmi.org. Winter Break with the Burros, a chance to meet the museum's adorable mascots, with hot chocolate, coffee and traditional pioneer kids' games to follow. Fri., Dec. 28, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. $4-8.

## Spirituality

**The Fire of Creation,** lecture and discussion with Fr. Ian Carman about the eternal fire of the Holy Ghost as made manifest in all religions. Wed., Dec. 26, 7 p.m. Liberal Catholic Church Center of Colorado Springs, 2720 E. Las Vegas St., # 115, 387-0308, saintbonaventure.bravehost.com.

**Spirituality Group,** Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Black Cat Books, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, manitoubooks.com.

**Tibetan Buddhist Meditation,** come for Tibetan Buddhist meditation and teaching on the offerings practice with Venerable Sangpo. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Free, or by donation. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 447-9880, tsling.org.

**Unchurch,** a "back to basics" Christian gathering focused on positivity and the embrace of differences. Led by Rev. Diane Martin. Held at 21 N. Union Blvd., #201. First and third Tuesday of every month, 6 p.m. Free. 433-6616, info@unchurchcs.com, unchurchcs.com.

**Weekly Spiritual Gathering,** non-religious meet-ups with "laughter, song and great people." RSVP for more information. Wednesdays, 6-8:30 p.m. By donation. 433-9625, kenpeacecarroll@gmail.com.

## Sports&Recreation

**Cosmic Yoga Slumber Party,** an evening of Thai massage, acupuncture, ecstatic dance and meditation with Kim Miller, followed by a slumber party and a 4:30 a.m. kundalini yoga session to welcome the new year. Mon., Dec. 31, 5:30 p.m. $25-45. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, facebook.com.

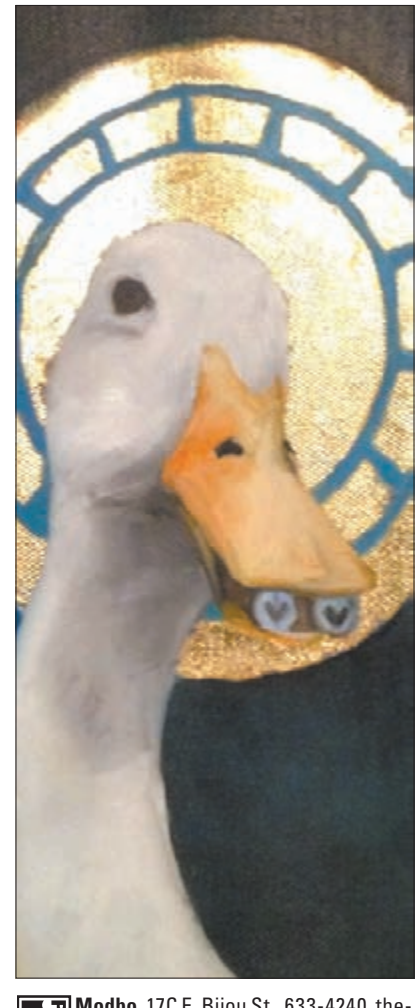
**First Day Hikes,** a national initiative to celebrate fitness and our state parks. Celebrate the new year by reconnecting with nature on a guided hike, happening statewide, but locally at Cheyenne Mountain State Park and Mueller State Park. Wildlife viewing and geocaching opportunities along the route, and hot chocolate at the end. Tues., Jan. 1, 10 a.m. Cheyenne Mountain State Park, 410 JL Ranch Heights, 576-2016; Mueller State Park, 21045 S. Hwy. 67, Divide, 687-2366; cpw.state.co.us.

**Free Teen Yoga,** a fun, all-levels vinyasa flow class for teens, including basic instruction on finding and opening up your chakras. Must bring signed parental permission waiver (available on website) if under 18. Sat., Dec. 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. cambio. Yoga, 3326 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 321-8547, cambioyoga.com.

**Full Moon Parade of Lights Hike,** a two-mile guided moonlit hike through the Garden, finishing with hot cocoa and cookies at the visitor Center. All participants receive a free Starlight Necklace, and proceeds go to local stewardship projects. Fri., Dec. 28, 6:30-9 p.m. $2-$5. Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center, 1805 N. 30th St., 633-6884, trailsandopenspaces.org.

**Full Moon Restorative Yoga,** a time of deep relaxation and healing to coincide with the lunar cycle. No yoga experience necessary for this event, which also features aromatheraphy and neck and shoulder massage. Sat., Dec. 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. $20-30. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, facebook.com.

**Kids Yoga,** a fun introduction to yoga especially designed for kids ages 5-11. Pre-registration



PICK **Modbo,** 17C E. Bijou St., 633-4240, themodbo.wordpress.com. *Fifth Annual Small Works Show*, a show and sale of artwork no larger than 24 inches in every dimension, hung ceiling to floor in both the Modbo and S.P.Q.R. Through Jan. 4.

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**Sunday Services of Worship**

**Nevada at Bijou**

**8:20 & 9:45 a.m.**
*Sanctuary, Blended Style with Choir*

**9:45 a.m.**
*Fellowship Hall, Contemporary*

**11:10 a.m.**
*Sanctuary, Contemporary*

**5:00 p.m.**
*Sanctuary, Contemplative*

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strongly recommended; parents required to stay on premises during class. Wed., Dec. 26, 4-5 p.m. cambio. Yoga, 3326 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 321-8547, cambioyoga.com.

**Learn to Fence,** a new series of beginner-level classes for youths age 9-14 from the Front Range Fencing Club, starting Jan. 10. All equipment provided. $85. Chinook Trail Elementary School, 11795 Grand Lawn Circle, 339-5495, frontrangefencingclub@comcast.net, frontrangefencing.tripod.com.

**Rescue Run,** a 35-year tradition in Colorado Springs — celebrate the new year with a 5K walk/run or 10K run, come rain, snow or shine. Proceeds benefit El Paso County Search & Rescue. Tues., Jan. 1, 10-11:30 a.m. $20-25. Palmer Park, 3650 Maizeland Road, DavidSorenson@msn.com, pprrun.org/events/RescueRun/main.htm.

**SK8/90 Resolution,** a chance to start the new year off right with 90 minutes of fun family-friendly exercise. Price of admission includes skate rental. Sat., Dec. 29, 3:45-5:15 p.m. $5. Sertich Ice Center, 1705 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 385-6009, springsgov.com.

## Stage

***WYNOT Radio Theatre: It Came Upon a Midnight Deadly,*** a holiday performance from the WYNOT Radio Theatre troupe. Through Dec. 30. $15. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Music Room, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, csfineartscenter.org.

## VolunteerOpportunities

**Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado** seeks volunteers to help out Mondays through Saturdays. It's also seeking "lead volunteers" who can commit to one or two days a week. Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado, 2605 Preamble Point, 434-5724, careandshare.org.

**Engineers Without Borders** seeks volunteers to help with technical work and fundraising for its water project in Bolivia. No experience required. 488-0926, ewbcos.org.

**Evercare Hospice and Palliative Care** needs volunteers to assist patients and families as companion volunteers, massage therapy volunteers (must be licensed), healing touch volunteers (must be certified). Training provided. Please call 265-1109 for more.

**Marian House** needs volunteer drivers to help pick up commodities at various stops throughout the Springs two to three hours per week. Call Theo Reiter at 866-6549 for more. Marian House, 14 W. Bijou St., 475-2347, ccharitiescs.org.

**North End Adult Day Care** seeks volunteers to play games, sing, make arts and crafts and more with North End's seniors, who are in need of memory care. Call for more information. 351-8786, northendadultdaycare.com.

**Peak Area Council of Governments** seeks volunteers with good clerical and customer service skills to help seniors improve their independence and quality of life by working in the Senior Information and Assistance Center (SIAC). Time commitment: 4-7 hours per week. 471-7080, jwilkinson@ppacg.org.

**Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care** is seeking volunteers in various capacities, especially for help on the weekends, such as prescription animal therapy, courier duties, vigil volunteers (who sit with dying patients) and Helping Hands volunteers who perform various chores after a patient dies. Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care, 825 E. Pikes Peak Ave. #600, 633-3400 ext. 600, pikespeakhospice.org.

**PPRTA Board of Directors** seeks a volunteer to serve as an at-large representative on its Citizen Advisory Committee, which addresses Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority budgets, contracts and project implementation. Applicants may submit letter and résumé via e-mail or post to PPACG, 15 S. Seventh St., attn: Rick Sonnenburg. Deadline Jan. 7. 471-7080 ext. 138, rsonnenburg@ppacg.org.

**Project Angel Heart** needs volunteers to help deliver free, nutritious meals to those living with life-threatening illnesses. The next volunteer orientation will be held Jan. 5. Apply online for more information. projectangelheart.org.

**Spirit of America Response (SOAR)** seeks volunteers for its food pantry and other programs for the military community. Call or e-mail for more info. 229-8280, dave@lotuscenterco.org.

## Outoftown

### special events

**Blossoms of Light,** a holiday spectacular featuring more than 1 million lights illuminating the Gardens, as well as the Gardens at Chatfield. Through Jan. 1. $5-$10. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York St., Denver, 720/865-3500, botanicgardens.org.

**MORE**
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## How to Submit a Listing

**Listings is a free service we offer to our readers. If you'd like to publicize an event or notice,** send us the details — who, what, where, when, how much and publishable contact information — in writing **by Wednesday at noon for the following Wednesday's paper**. If humanly possible, please do so at csindy.com: Simply click "Submit an event" at the bottom of the homepage, and the rest is self-explanatory. Other means of submission include e-mail (listings@csindy.com) or fax (577-4107). One-time events typically make it into the issue on the Wednesday leading up to that event; ongoing events sometimes are included in additional issues. That said, events are included on a space-available basis, meaning we can't ever guarantee a listing will make it into print. So we strongly discourage relying on Listings as your sole source of publicity — if you'd like to guarantee placement in the *Indy*, you can purchase an ad in our classifieds section or in our retail advertising section by calling 577-4545. Questions? E-mail listings@csindy.com or call 577-4545.


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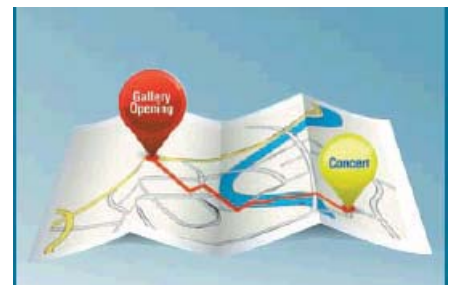

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# StrangerThanFiction

## Curses, foiled again

Authorities intercepted two boxes containing 100 grams of cocaine and 3 kilos of methamphetamine being shipped to the Philippines via FedEx, but they couldn't identify the sender until Gabriel Uribe-Bautista, 37, of Redwood City, Calif., called FedEx two weeks later asking why his packages hadn't arrived, and gave his name and whereabouts. (*Palo Alto Daily News*)

Sheriff's deputies summoned to an address in Stuart, Fla., charged Stephen Bates, 28, with threatening his neighbor with a chain saw. A witness heard him declare, "I am going to kill you. I am going to (expletive) kill you." The attack ended abruptly when Bates was unable to start the chain saw. (Treasure Coast's *TCPalm*)

## Naming rights

The Weather Channel announced it is "the first national organization in North America to proactively name winter storms." TWC, which claims a 76 percent share of the U.S. weather audience, assumes other media and the government will also use its names. The announcement said names will follow a Greek-Roman theme, starting with Athena, Brutus and Caesar, and be assigned to any storm with the potential "to produce disruptive impacts including snowfall, ice, wind and temperature." One of TWC's few competitors, AccuWeather, didn't mention assigning its own names but expressed concern "about the lack of strict criteria with naming winter storms." TWC meteorologist Bryan Norcross said having everyone use TWC's name "will mean fewer surprises and more preparation," making bad weather safer. (*The Washington Post*)

## Letter of the law

Officials stopped Dana Crow-Smith from handing out free water at an art event in downtown Phoenix, Ariz., claiming she violated the city's "mobile vendor" ordinance. It bans vendors from "giving away goods, wares, or merchandise or food" while standing on private property. Crow-Smith, who believes she was standing on a public sidewalk but concedes she might have inadvertently stepped onto a private lot, said she was publicly expressing her Christian faith by giving passers-by water, not selling it, but City Manager David Cavazos said her giveaway was unfair to merchants who paid for permits to sell food and drink at the event. (Phoenix's *The Arizona Republic*)

## Mistakes were made

Julia Garcia claimed she was Christmas shopping at a Wal-Mart store in San Antonio, Texas, and handed a $100 bill to the cashier, who informed her the bill was fake and tore it in half "without performing any counterfeit detection test." When Garcia complained, the cashier called the manager. Garcia showed him a second $100 bill, which he tore up. The manager then detained Garcia and called police. She said she was held for four hours at the front of the store, where store employees informed curious shoppers that Garcia was caught passing fake money. Police determined the bills were genuine and told the manager to give Garcia $200. She then filed a complaint asking $74,900 in damages from the store. (Britain's *Daily Mail*)

## Beauty under the skin

A 46-year-old woman died and three others were hospitalized after receiving a beauty treatment at a Hong Kong clinic. The procedure involves blood transfusions and is being tested as a cancer treatment. Until it's approved, however, it is being used for cosmetic purposes, according to Hong Kong's Hospital Authority, which reported the woman died of septic shock. (Associated Press)

## Job insecurity

Robots are taking jobs from dolphins working for the Navy. Starting in 2017, the service will replace 24 of its 80 mine-hunting dolphins with 12-foot unmanned vehicles. The robots can be made quickly and used instantly, whereas dolphins need seven years of training before they're able to warn of undersea mines and terrorist divers. The displaced dolphins will join sea lions as port security guards. (Associated Press)

## Crime eventually pays

Austrian police who arrested Otto Neuman in 1993 for stealing more than $240,000, plus gold bars and gold coins, from the Vienna bank he managed, recovered only $82,000 and the gold. The gold went to the bank's insurance company and the cash to Austria's Justice Ministry. Neuman served three and a half years in prison. This fall, court officials notified Neuman's lawyer, Herbert Eichenseder, that his client was entitled to the stolen money.

The bank wouldn't take it because the insurance company had compensated it in full. The insurance company declined it, saying the increase in the gold's value more than covered what it paid to the bank. After locating Neuman, now 63, Eichenseder reported, "To say that he was surprised was an understatement, but he provided his bank account details, and the money has now been transferred." (*Austrian Times*)

## Under the law's nose

A thief robbed a Hobart hotel where dozens of police officers, gathered from all over New Zealand for the National Police Football Championships, were busy drinking. They didn't notice a hotel employee chasing the suspect, who stole a few hundred dollars from a cash drawer in another part of the hotel when the worker stepped away for a moment. The suspect escaped, but police promised, "His arrest is imminent. We have good CCTV footage." (Hobart's *The Mercury*)

**Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.**

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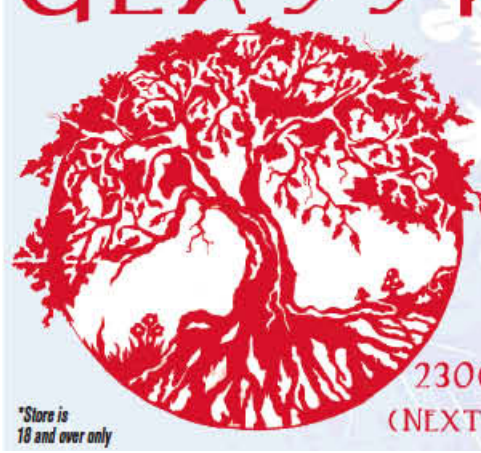

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# CannaBiz

Medical marijuana news of the week

## Stark's reality

No local voice in marijuana politics is more quotable than that of KC Stark.

"America was founded on the idea that we are a more perfect union that continues to improve on its perfection," says the owner of the local Medical Marijuana Business Academy. "If you look at the history of America, we've done a lot of stupid things, but over time society and culture, awareness and education take those stupid things, and we learn from them, and change.

"That's why we have amendments and elected officials — because America is an ever-developing form of perfection," he goes on. "And I think our stance on marijuana in the past has been an absolute failure."

By contrast, his own business, which teaches people to open MMJ businesses, looks more and more like a success. He reports several new inquiries a day, with potential investors and wannabe growers calling from across the country.

The enactment of Amendment 64 has certainly opened the floodgates to new commercial interest in cannabis. (It's also made his work easier: For the first time, in January his cannabis-growing classes won't require participants to possess medical "red cards" beforehand.)

Stark predicts that every current medical dispensary that can do so legally will switch to selling recreational marijuana as soon as regulations are established. "I can't see the two [medical and recreational] existing side-by-side for very long," he says.

He reports that the sale of one successful dispensary in town is currently being negotiated for upward of $1 million; the prospect of a huge recreational-weed market is likely beginning to set such capital in motion.

All this in mind, what about the group of Colorado business leaders who've asked the federal Department of Justice to enforce cannabis prohibition laws, state voters be damned?

"I think they're holding onto the past," Stark says, "and not looking forward to the future."

## Presidential plaudits

Although President Obama's statement — that the federal government has "bigger fish to fry" than individuals possessing marijuana in states where it's legal — has largely been interpreted as not signaling any shift in policy, some in Hollywood are applauding it anyway.

The Huffington Post reports that Danny Glover, John Legend, Brad Pitt, Russell Simmons and filmmaker Eugene Jarecki have jointly released statements commending the president for "expressing the will of the people in Colorado and Washington." Colorado users, growers and sellers alike can only hope.

***— Wyatt Miller***


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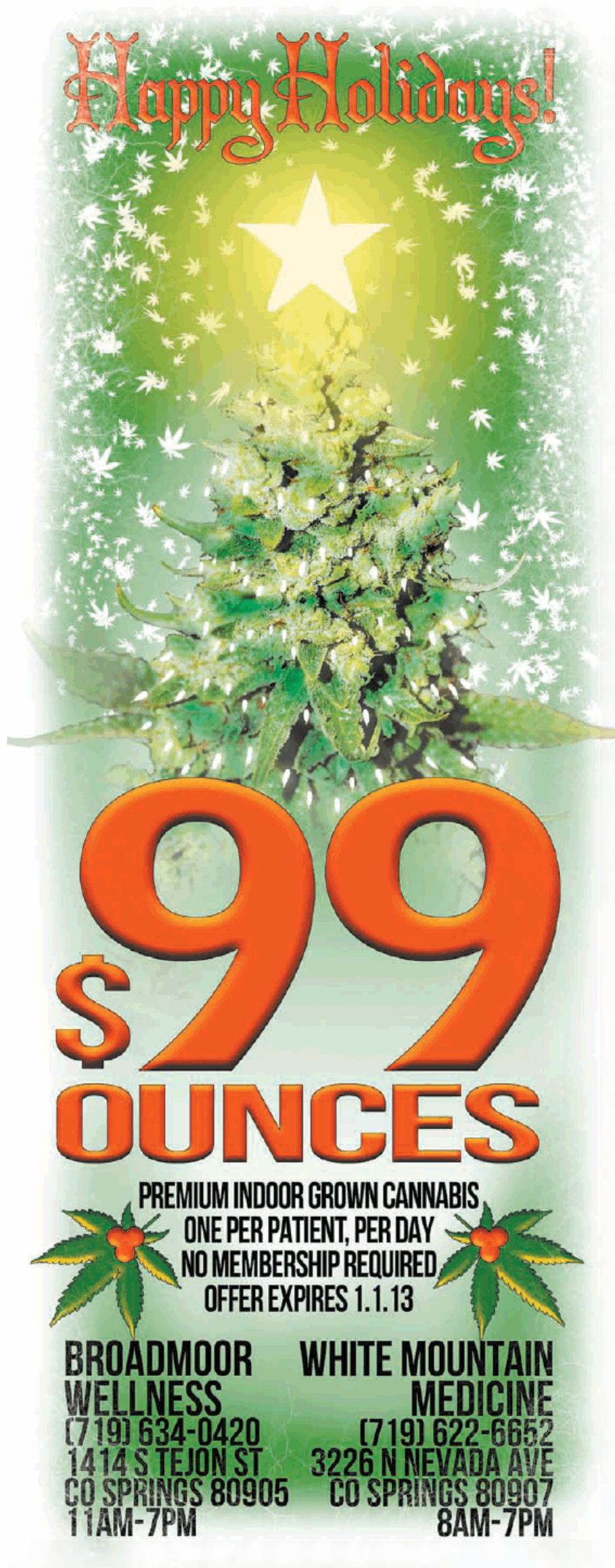

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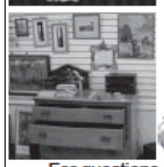

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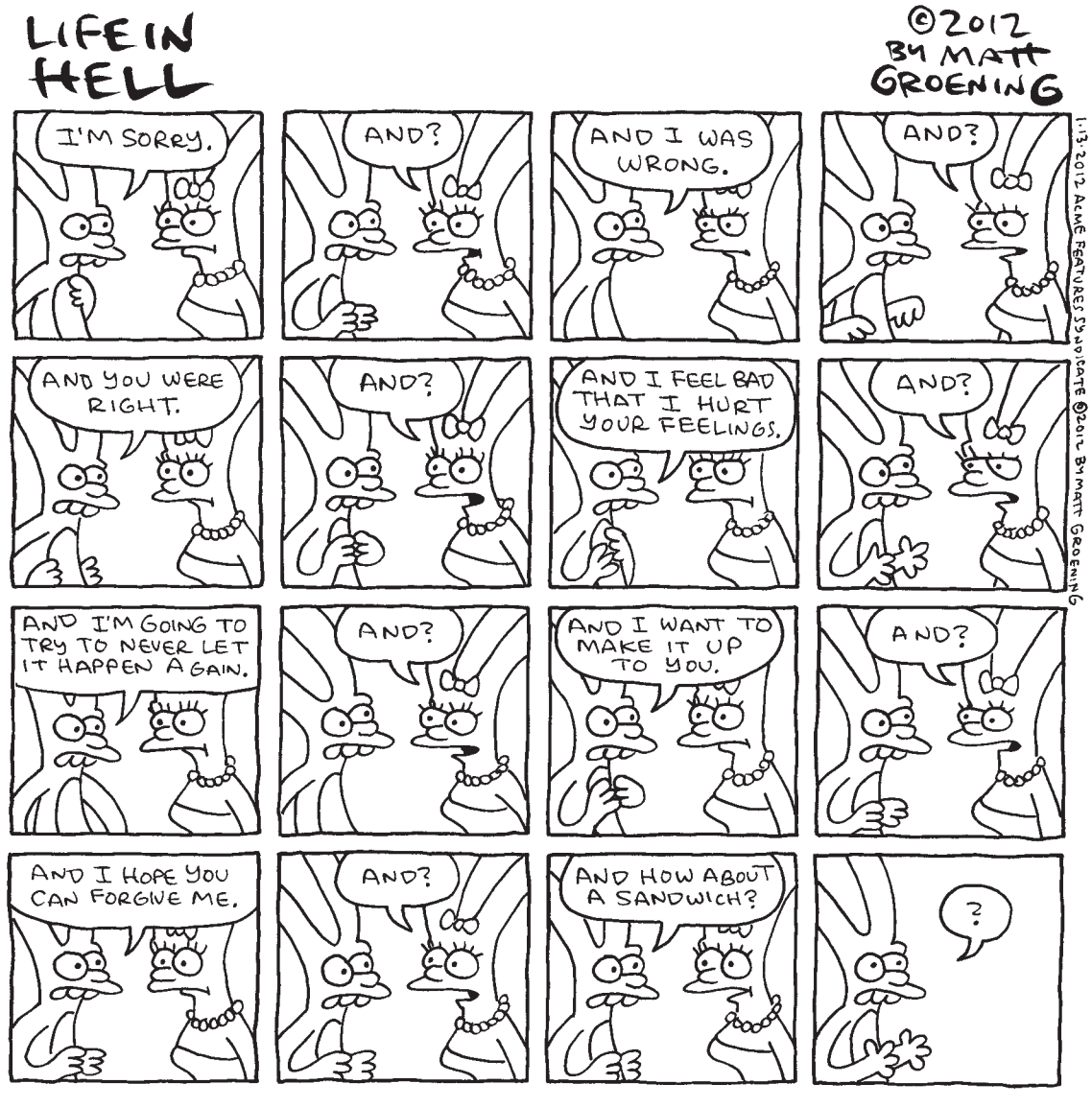

# AdviceGoddess

By Amy Alkon

## The son almost never rises

*Two years ago, after dating a wonderful lady for a year, I married her and moved in with her. The problem is her 23-year-old son. He lives with us, has never held a job, doesn't go to school, and does nothing but eat, sleep and poop. I've worked since I was 14, my wife and I both work hard now, and it's grating to have such laziness always in my face. My wife knows this and says he's been trying to get a job for more than two years. (He shows no signs he's looking.) I'm starting to feel played by my wife. How long should I put up with this? — Thinning Patience*

Of course it grates on you, providing free room and board to an adult man whose main source of income is birthday cards from grandma.

And yes, you've been played — not by your wife, but by what economists call "optimism bias." This is the human predisposition to believe things will work out for the best and to gloss over worrisome details, like how your wife's layabout son would suddenly become industrious at something besides being a role model for moss.

Your wife has confused coddling with love — maybe for 23 years or maybe since feeling guilty about getting a divorce. After years of go-right-ahead mommying, it's no small task to inspire your step-slug to expand his life goals beyond napping more, watching more interesting porn, and trying all the varieties of Doritos. (The guy standing in the traffic median holding a sign asking for spare change shows more autonomy and dignity. At least he wrote a message on a piece of cardboard and is ambulatory.)

**Her 23-year-old son does nothing but eat, sleep and poop.**

Give your wife props for trying to be a good mother, but explain that by supporting the kid as she has been, she's actually holding him back. He may not get his ideal job (video game tester or human slipcover), but he'll get on the road to self-sufficiency by flipping burgers or bagging groceries if it's either that or sleeping in a doorway. Propose that she gives him 30 days to get a roommate situation and tells him she'll pay two months of his rent while he job-hunts and gets working, and then he's on his own. Propose that she also acts like she means it, but be prepared for him to test her and for her to cave. Ultimately, you need to decide whether you'd rather live with La-Z-Boy than without your wife. If push comes to nap, it may come to that — assuming you're unsuccessful with various passive-aggressive measures, like installing a coin slot on the bathroom, refrigerator and cable TV.

## Foreplaying hard to get

*I'm a woman just back in the dating game. I'd like to hold off on first-date sex and get to know a guy before I sleep with him. But what are some deflector lines? "Not tonight, I have a headache"? "Sorry, but I'm storming the beaches of Normandy tomorrow"? I suppose a good line should come to mind, but I really can't think of anything to say beyond "Hey, what am I, your booty call?" — Speechless*

First-date sex doesn't just happen, like, one minute you're looking for a little dish for the olive pit from your appetizer, and the next, you're in the guy's bed staring at the water stain on his ceiling. Intermediate steps include inviting your date up for a nightcap (which, to many men, loosely translates to "Would you like to come in and remove your pants?").

Resolve beforehand how far you'll go, and if the goodnight kiss at your door starts to turn into a goodnight grope, say something like "Hey, I'd rather take things a little slower." Although this remark lacks wit and historical references, it also lacks ambiguity and it'll get the job done far better than the strident "Hey, what am I, your booty call?" — assuming your goal isn't making a man long to never call you again.

If you're among the weak-willed, it's a good idea to wear protection, like 4,000 pounds of steel, rubber and glass around you in the form of the car you drive to meet the guy for drinks. It's also wise to have something to do afterward so you only stay for an hour or two. Of course, meeting for a late-afternoon coffee may be wisest if drinking alcohol tends to correlate with your bra and panties flying off. Ideally, on the first date, if you find yourself sputtering "Really, I never do this ..." it should be because the guy's overheard you asking the barista to violate your latte with two pumps of pumpkin.

***Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave, #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail adviceamy@aol.com (advicegoddess.com). Alkon is the author of* I See Rude People: One Woman's Battle To Beat Some Manners Into Impolite Society.**

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| 8 | | | 4 | 5 | | 2 | | |

**SUDUKO X**
Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contain the numbers 1 to 9. Use logic to define the answers. Answers on page 54

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## Brainiac Alert!

CHESS QUIZ

WHITE GAINS A PIECE
Hint: First, simplify.
For puzzle answers, see page 54

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| | 1− | | 1 |

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| 16+ | | 30× | | | 10× |
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| 2− | | 4 | | 2÷ | |
| | 10+ | | 4 | 5− | |
| 2 | | 5− | | 1− | |

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Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a number in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined cage will produce the target number show by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. A 4x4 grid uses the digits 1,2,3,4, while a 6x6 grid uses the numbers 1-6.

**For puzzle answers, see page 54**

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**RULES**

1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.


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# FreeWillAstrology

By Rob Brezsny

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 2013, I pledge to help you bring only the highest-quality influences and self-responsible people into your life. Together we will work to dispel any unconscious attraction you might have to demoralizing chaos or pathological melodrama. We will furthermore strive to ensure that as you deepen and fine-tune your self-discipline, it will not be motivated by self-denial or obsessive control-freak tendencies. Rather, it will be an act of love that you engage in so as to intensify your ability to express yourself freely and beautifully.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): In the sci-fi film trilogy *The Matrix*, the heroes are able to instantaneously acquire certain complex skills via software that's downloaded directly into their brains. In this way, the female hacker named Trinity masters the art of piloting a military M-109 helicopter in just a few minutes. If you could choose a few downloads like that, Aries, what would they be? This isn't just a rhetorical question meant for your amusement. In 2013, I expect that your educational capacity will be exceptional. While you may not be able to add new skills as easily as Trinity, you'll be pretty fast and efficient. So what do you want to learn? Choose wisely.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Are you familiar with the fable of the golden goose? The farmer who owned it became impatient because it laid only one gold egg per day. So he killed it, thinking he would thereby get the big chunk of gold that must be inside its body. Alas, his theory was mistaken. There was no chunk. From then on, of course, he no longer got his modest daily treasure. I nominate this fable to be one of your top teaching stories of 2013. As long as you're content with a slow, steady rate of enrichment, you'll be successful. Pushing extra hard to expedite the flow might lead to problems.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Here are some of the experiences I hope to help you harvest in the coming year: growing pains that are interesting and invigorating rather than stressful; future shock that feels like a fun joyride rather than a bumpy rumble; two totally new and original ways to get excited; a good reason to have faith in a dream that has previously been improbable; a fresh supply of Innocent Crazy-Wise Love Truth; and access to all the borogoves, mome raths and slithy toves you could ever want.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): In her gallery show *Actuality, Reminiscence, and Fabrication*, artist Deborah Sullivan includes a piece called "Penance 1962." It consists of a series of handwritten statements that repeats a central theme: "I must not look at boys during prayer." I'm assuming it's based on her memory of being in church or Catholic school when she was a teenager. You probably have an analogous rule lodged somewhere in the depths of your unconscious mind — an outmoded prohibition or taboo that may still be subtly corroding your life energy. The coming year will be an excellent time to banish that ancient nonsense for good. If you were Deborah Sullivan, I'd advise you to fill a whole notebook page with the corrected assertion: "It's OK to look at boys during prayer."

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): For years, the gravestone of Irish dramatist Oscar Wilde was covered with kiss-shaped lipstick marks that were left by his admirers. Unfortunately, Wilde's descendants decided to scour away all those blessings and erect a glass wall around the tomb to prevent further displays of affection. In my astrological opinion, Leo, you should favor the former style of behavior over the latter in 2013. In other words, don't focus on keeping things neat and clean and well-ordered. On the contrary: Be extravagant and uninhibited in expressing your love for the influences that inspire you — even at the risk of being a bit unruly or messy.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In 2013, I hope to conspire with you to raise your levels of righteous success. If you're a struggling songwriter, I'll be pushing for you to get your music out to more people — without sacrificing your artistic integrity. If you're a kindergarten teacher, I'll prompt you to fine-tune and deepen the benevolent influence you have on your students. If you're a business owner, I'll urge you to ensure that the product or service you offer is a well-honed gift to those who use it. As I trust you can see, Virgo, I'm implying that impeccable ethics will be crucial to your ascent in the coming year.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): After Libran poet Wallace Stevens won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1955, Harvard University offered him a job as a full professor. But he turned it down. He couldn't bear leaving his day job as the vice-president of an insurance company in Hartford, Conn. I suspect that in the first half of 2013, you will come to a fork in the road that may feel something like Stevens' quandary. Should you stick with what you know or else head off in the direction of more intense and unpredictable stimulation? I'm not here to tell you which is the better choice; I simply want to make sure you clearly identify the nature of the decision.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 2013, I will try to help you retool, reinvent and reinvigorate yourself in every way that's important to you. I will encourage you to reawaken one of your sleeping aptitudes, recapture a lost treasure, and reanimate a dream you've neglected. If you're smart, Scorpio, you will reallocate resources that got misdirected or wasted. And I hope you will reapply for a privilege or position you were previously denied, because I bet you'll win it this time around. Here are your words of power for the year ahead: *resurrection* and *redemption*.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Based on experiments at the Large Hadron Collider, a team of physicists in France and Switzerland announced last July that they had tentatively discovered the Higgs Boson, which is colloquially known as the "God particle." What's all the fuss? In her *San Francisco Chronicle* column, Leah Garchik quoted an expert who sought to explain: "The Higgs boson is the WD40 and duct tape of the universe, all rolled into one." Is there a metaphorical equivalent of such a glorious and fundamental thing in your life, Sagittarius? If not, I predict you will find it in 2013. If there already is, I expect you will locate and start using its 2.0 version.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Genius is the ability to renew one's emotions in daily experience," said French painter Paul Cezanne. What do you think he meant by that? Here's one interpretation: Many of us replay the same old emotions over and over again — even in response to experiences that are nothing like the past events when we felt those exact feelings. So a genius might be someone who generates a fresh emotion for each new adventure. Here's another possible interpretation of Cezanne's remark: It can be hard to get excited about continually repeating the basic tasks of our regular routines day after day. But a genius might be someone who is good at doing just that. I think that by both of these definitions, 2013 could be a genius year for you Aquarians.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Home is not just the building where you live. It's more than the community that gives you support and the patch of earth that comforts you with its familiarity. Home is any place where you're free to be your authentic self; it's any power spot where you can think your own thoughts and see with your own eyes. I hope and trust that in 2013 you will put yourself in position to experience this state of mind as often as possible. Do you have any ideas about how to do that? Brainstorm about it on a regular basis for the next six months.

**HOMEWORK:** To check out Part 1 of my three-part audio forecasts of your destiny in 2013, go to bit.ly/BigPicture2012.

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny's **EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES** and **DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES**. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at **1-877-873-4888** or 1-900-950-7700.


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Independent

## DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP SEEKS CEO

The Downtown Partnership is dedicated to building and sustaining a thriving downtown in Colorado Springs, and serves as both a membership organization and the umbrella for three quasi-governmental entities: the Greater Downtown Colorado Springs Business Improvement District, Colorado Springs Downtown Development Authority and Colorado Springs Community Ventures, Inc.

**The Partnership provides contracted services to advance key priorities important to the region and implements programs important to downtown merchants, residents and visitors.**

The CEO leads the board in setting strategy and policy to advance the Partnership's mission; leads the staff in planning and implementing a comprehensive program that secures the necessary resources (funding, projects, programs) to support the Partnership's priorities; and is the "champion of downtown". The CEO reports to the Downtown Partnership Executive Committee.

**Requirements:**

Bachelor's degree and experience in:
- Managing and supervising a team
- Current and evolving trends in urban planning, design, etc.
- Building and maintaining long-term relationships with constituents
- Fiscal management with sensitivity to effective and transparent use of taxpayer funds
- At least 10 years executive leadership experience

Direct knowledge and experience with Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak Region preferred.

For a full job description and requirements visit www.downtown80903.com.

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Theory, clinical, lab, 2 year C.P.R. certification, background check, $95.00 for a state examination fee and the use of a text book, The cost to you above and beyond the $700.00 will be your scrubs, non slip closed toe shoes, and a 2 step PPD (TB) tests.

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# EMPLOYMENT

## Career education

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**WORK WITH ANIMALS** Become a Veterinary Technician at the Colorado Academy of Veterinary Technology. Call Dr. Steve Rubin, DVM 719-432-6384 www.coloradovettech.com

## Sales

**Sales Manager**
As our sales, print & web readership have grown, we now need an inspiring systematic, experienced hands-on leader to oversee all revenue generation at the *Independent*. See job description in this section or at www.csindy.com/coloradosprings/JobOpenings/Page.

## Education

**MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14**
Paraprofessional Special Education 2 positions. Must meet highly qualified requirements. Experience preferred. Background check. Small group and individual support for Special Education students in general education classes. Send application and resume to: Manitou Springs School District 14, Attn: Human Resources 405 El Monte Place Manitou Springs, CO 80829 or drichards@mssd14.0rg.

**FIND TENANTS** Place an ad in the Independent Real Estate Rentals section & reach 28,500 renters in Colorado Springs. Call 577-4545

## Social work

**Supervised Exchange and Parenting Time** Supervised Exchg & Parenting Time Client/Volunteer Coordinator, FT/40/hrs./wk. Resp for implementation & maintaining 2 rural visitation sites in Teller County. Will schedule client visits & volunteers. Req'd: Collage Grad, reliable transprtn., data collect & rptg., ofc & computer skills, 3+ yrs exp & traing in domestic violence field, excel. people and org. skills, conflict resolution, & exp. work'g in diverse orgs. Prefer'd: prgm develpmt & volunteer mgmt. experience, court system knowledge, & bilingual Spanish. Mail/fax resume & COVER LTR by 1/2/13 to: CASA, HR, 701 S. Cascade, C/S CO 80903 or fax 667-1818. EOE

## Work wanted

**POSITION WANTED!** Need a Collection Manager / Accounts Receivable person? I have 35 years experience. Call John at 391.2506.

## Business Opps.

**HOME INSPECTORS:** WORK LESS~EARN MORE! Proven success, no inventory. Own your own franchise $13-$25K. Call 719-434-2271

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- Partnering, coaching, mentoring and time management skills
- Strong business acumen, negotiating and closing skills
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# REAL ESTATE

## Homes Central

**2211 N. Union Blvd ~$145,000** 1812 sq ft 3 bed rancher w/ 2 baths, den, vinyl windows, central air, & big 2 1/2-car garage detached garage (670 sq ft). Tiled eat-in kitchen. Decorative pond front & rear. Sits on surface street so this is buffer between house & Union Blvd. Needs a little work, but priced accordingly. MLS# 772043. Call Bobbi Price, The Platinum Group 499-9451

## Homes South

**Home For Sale** FSBO, veteran owned, 6bd/3ba/2 car, D-20, Nice Views, 2 decks, fenced yd. $185K. 6510 E. Wicklow Cir. 590-1799

## Homes East

**3 Bed, Barn, 5 Acres ** $132,000 **** FHA $1,000 down $0 close, $698 mo 3.5% Interest No payment ti April Total remodel Excellent condition Mtn. view,Private well Jim 475-0517 hm/wk

**5076 Peak Villa HEIGHTS ~ $209,900** Contemporary stucco 1668 sq ft 3 bed, 3 bath corner end unit townhome in gated complex. Eat-in island kitchen. Fin bsmnt w/ 3rd bed or office, family room, & full bath perfect for teenager/guests. A/C. Hardwood. Fireplace. Bay windows, built-ins, rounded, corners, skylights, & vaulted ceilings. Deck. HOAs cover all exterior maintenance. MLS# 763236. Call Bobbi Price, The Platinum Group 499-9451

## Homes West

**625 Scrub Oak Rd. ~ $449,000** Investors – buy now & move in later. Gorgeous 3173 sq ft 3 bed, 3 bath 1 1/2-story stucco custom in Crystal Park only 1.3 miles from gate. 360 views of mtns, city, & Garden of the Gods. Beams, soaring ceilings, & walls of glass. Total privacy. Walkout fin bsmnt. 2 lofts. 2 fireplaces. Property leased through July 2013 & tenants would like to stay longer. Great for 1031 exchange. MLS# 728741. Call Bobbi Price, The Platinum Group 499-9451

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# REAL ESTATE

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Office Condo for sale in Center of Old Colorado City - Corner of 25th and Colo Ave with parking lot in front . Call Jim Zorman, London Group 719-233-2325 to explore flexible owner-carry finance options. Details and floor plan at drpurinsh.com .

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Build & get away from it all! 20 beautiful available custom sites in Woodland Park, Black Forest, Ellicott, Peyton, Calhan, Falcon, Monument & Maizeland Moors. Ranging in price from $29,000 to $275,000 & from an acre to over 5 acres. Some with views, trees & walkouts. Call for list of specifics that we can email to you. MLS# multiple. Please view at www.bobbiprice.com. Call Bobbi Price, The Platinum Group 499-9451


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**2430 Palmer Park Blvd. #108 $55,900**
Affordable senior condo. Sparkling clean 512 sq ft 1 bed condo. Light, neutral, & cheery. Park like grounds. Complex is 55 or older. Club house elevators & security doors. MLS# 734633

**2815 Elm Meadow Vw. $239,900**
Independent senior living at Mackenzie Place. Like new 3 bed, 3 bath 2588 sq ft rancher - fully handicapped accessible. Former model home in this 55 or older community w/ pool, hot tub, pubs, restaurant, theatre, gym, transportation, & cultural & social activities. Carefree country club style retirement living w/ everything done for you. MLS# 733285

**1317 E. Madison St. $429,900**
Builders personal home backing to Patty Jewett Golf Course. Completely rebuilt in 2006 from the foundation up. 3044 sq ft. 3 bed & loft. 3 baths. 2-car garage. Silestone & cherry gourmet island kitchen. Huge master suite w/ California walk-in closet. 5-pc master bath. Hardwood floors. Mtn & golf course views. MLS# 778908

**102 N Main St. $525,000**
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# RENTALS

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**Springs INN**
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Some overlook Tejon St. Starting @ $225 /mo gross -incl Janitorial! Up to 1,400 sf avail. Call 520-1515

## Rentals Central

**2BR~FREE UTILITIES**
lower level duplex w/ appliances, shared W/D, avail 1/7, $695. all-seasons.com 632-0463

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Studio $395 + elec., 4-Plex Airport / Academy $675 +elec., Downtown. 4 bedroom $1150. 550-0010.

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**Old North End**
Beautiful 3-4 BR, 2 BA, 2 Story, wood floors, sunroom and deck $1595.00. 111 San Migel. all-seasons.com; 719-632-3368

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**UPPER LEVEL 4-PLEX**
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## Rentals North

**Two Story near Powers and Stetson Hills**
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## Rentals South

**Bi-Level in Fountain Valley**
4BR, 2BA, updates, wood FP, fenced yard, Storage, W/D Hookups. Water/WW included in rent, approx 1736 sf. avail 1/7 $1,295. all-seasons.com 632-0463

**Kit Carson Apts**
1 and 2 bed apts available. Pool. A/C. W/D on site. 1 bd 625 sqft, spacious rooms. Call today 719-392-4319

**LARGE 1 & 2BR APTS**
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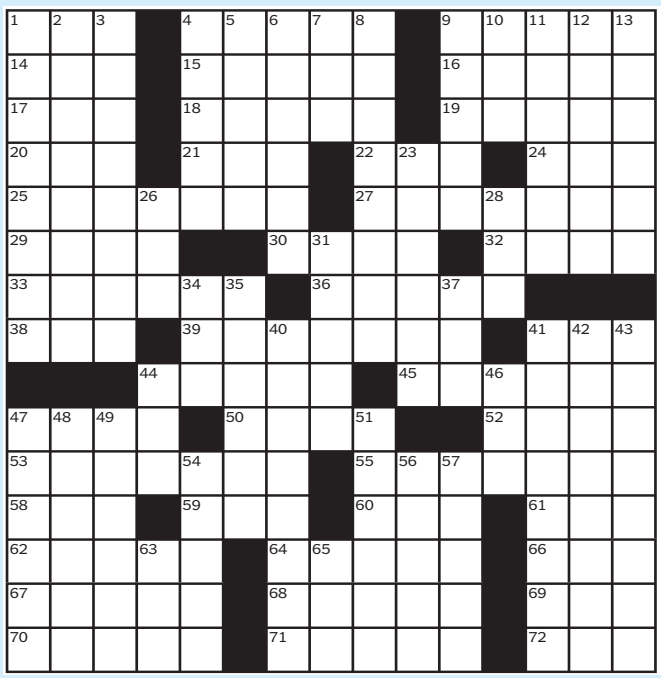
**ONE LEVEL CHARMER**
near Cheyenne Canyon: newer updates, 2 BR, W/D in unit. fenced yard. approx 780 sq. ft.. Dist 12, avail 12/29, $695. all-seasons.com 632-0463



# The New York Times Crossword

**ACROSS**
1 Atypical
4 Bit
9 Ballet dips
14 Once called
15 Skater Sonja
16 Station wagon rear door feature
17 Fraternity letter
18 Open courts
19 Light on one's feet
20 Kind of party
21 German "never"
22 TV drama featuring Ted Danson as D. B. Russell
24 MS. enclosure
25 Maddens
27 Submits
29 "Three Men in ___" ("Our Gang" short)
30 Popular perfume
32 Golfer McIlroy who won the 2011 U.S. Open
33 Starts over, in a way
36 Good-looker
38 Short rebuke
39 Items in a personnel director's in-box
41 ___ Jordan, real name of the Green Lantern
44 Grand ___
45 Israeli, e.g.
47 Snow ___
50 Paucity
52 ___ Candy, "Wonder Woman" character
53 Strange things
55 What circles in a Venn diagram do
58 Network with more than 900 stations
59 Party person?: Abbr.
60 Straightaway
61 Distant
62 Out-and-out
64 Sore, and more
66 ___-goat
67 "Hey Jude" vis-à-vis "Revolution," e.g.
68 Man-___
69 Leoni of "Tower Heist"
70 Set designer's interest
71 Orchestra grouping
72 Byelorussia, e.g.: Abbr.

**DOWN**
1 2003 Celine Dion album
2 Periods of de-escalation, perhaps
3 U.S. secretary of state tied for the second-longest time in office
4 Former tennis star Michael
5 Fix, as laces
6 Rioting
7 Early 11th-century year
8 Person likely to have a good tan
9 Bagel choice
10 Audio problem
11 "Yes"
12 Patisserie treat
13 Lustrous
23 Pan-fries
26 Five-spot
28 Like some wit
31 ___ accent, mark used symmetrically six times in this puzzle's solution
34 Sample
35 Hand-holding event
37 Indianapolis-to-Cincinnati dir.
40 More deserving of an R rating, say
41 Targets appear on them
42 Some cases
43 2012, for one
44 33rd prez
46 Outlet for une rivière
47 Basketball squad, e.g.
48 Piece of hard-hitting journalism
49 ___ valve
51 Fund-raiser's request
54 Thumb twiddler
56 Made an X, maybe
57 Servers at some restaurants
63 Stir
65 "Norma ___"

For puzzle answers, please see pg. 54
From NYT Syndicate

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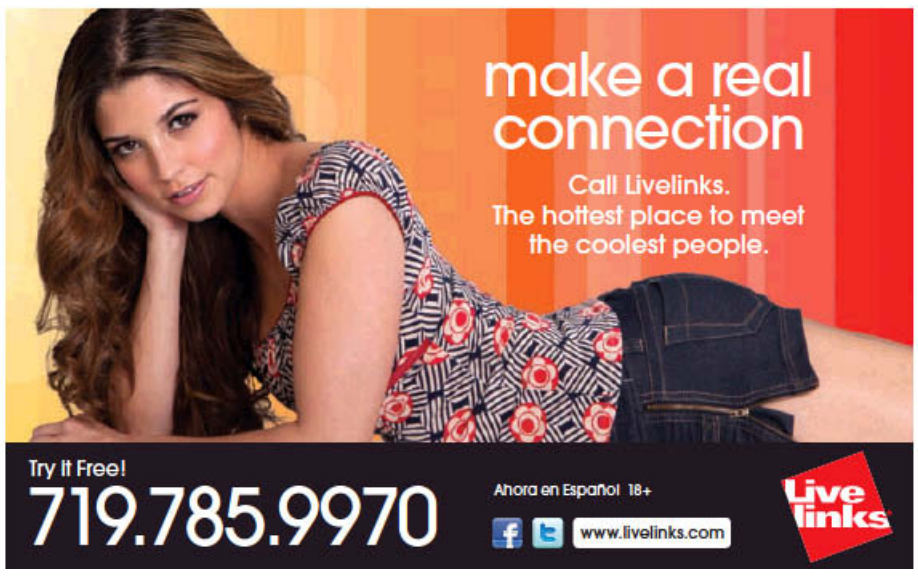



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## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 |
| 9 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
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| 4 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| 2 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| 7 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
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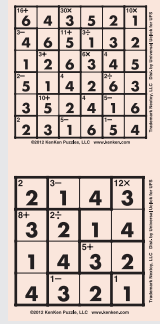
| 8 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 7 |

KENKEN





## Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O | D | D | ■ | C | R | U | M | B | ■ | P | L | I | É | S |
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| E | T | A | ■ | A | T | R | I | A | ■ | A | G | I | L | E |
| H | E | N | ■ | N | I | E | ■ | C | S | I | ■ | S | A | E |
| E | N | R | A | G | E | S | ■ | H | A | N | D | S | I | N |
| A | T | U | B | ■ | ■ | T | A | B | U | ■ | R | O | R | Y |
| R | E | S | E | T | S | ■ | C | U | T | E | Y | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| T | S | K | ■ | R | É | S | U | M | É | S | ■ | H | A | L |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | H | Y | A | T | T | ■ | S | E | M | I | T | E |
| P | E | A | S | ■ | N | E | E | D | ■ | ■ | E | T | T | A |
| E | X | O | T | I | C | A | ■ | O | V | E | R | L | A | P |
| N | P | R | ■ | D | E | M | ■ | N | O | W | ■ | I | C | Y |
| T | O | T | A | L | ■ | I | R | A | T | E | ■ | S | H | E |
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| D | É | C | O | R | ■ | R | E | E | D | S | ■ | S | S | R |

## CHESS QUIZ

*From page 50:*
**1. Rxe2! Rxe2 2. Kf3! gets the knight or rook. [Bareev-Maletin].**

# EndZone

By Ralph Routon

## Raw deal from Pro Challenge

For the past week, all we've heard in response to the USA Pro Challenge rejecting Colorado Springs' bid for a piece of the 2013 cycling race has been diplomatic blather. Nobody wants to say anything that might hurt us in the future.

Instead, they're saying, let's be grateful. It was a lot to expect, to be included for a third consecutive year. Other cities deserved a chance to become involved. Maybe we can have the privilege again in 2014.

Enough already. Nobody wants to say what they're really thinking. So I will.

Colorado Springs deserved better. Far better than this insensitive snub from the organizers of the still-fledgling event, going into just its third year.

In fact, our city should be royally torqued after being blown off for 2013. Not one moment of the seven-day event will take place south of a line that runs from Aspen to Breckenridge to Denver. No more effort to see as much of the state as realistically possible.

**SPORTS SHOT**

**Shared solution** It's hard to argue with gymnast Gabby Douglas being Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year, but this would have been a good time for AP to name another Olympic champion as the co-winner: swimmer Missy Franklin of Denver.

**Prediction** Just a guess that Air Force senior runner Cody Getz, recovered from injuries, will be the MVP Saturday in the Armed Forces Bowl against Rice.

**Busy Saturday** After watching Air Force vs. Rice in football (9:45 a.m., ESPN), see the Falcons vs. Florida in men's basketball at 2:30 p.m. on ROOT, then listen to AFA hockey visiting Minnesota at 6 p.m. on AM-1300.

**Crazy** In their 12-3 season, the Denver Broncos haven't had a game closer than six points.

And not a glimpse of Colorado Springs, which contributed so much to the race establishing instant credibility.

Instead, it suddenly looks like a wine-and-cheese orgy in and around the ritzy ski towns, mingling with the nouveau riche and perhaps some wrinkled, Hollywood used-to-be-jet-setters. *Come on, **Buffy**, let's go down to the square with **Griff** and **Dharma**, have a little Pinot with escargot, and perhaps see **Cadel Evans**, **Levi Leipheimer** and the boys. Maybe we can buy a signed jersey. They'll have nice hors d'oeuvres in the VIP tent for only an extra $200 or so. It'll be a nice afternoon. Then we can fly home to L.A. tomorrow.*

So all those amazing Men in Tights, along with their hard-working entourages, will spend five days bopping around between Aspen and Snowmass, Vail, Steamboat and Breckenridge. Then they'll come back down the hill to mingle with the unwashed, on a Loveland-to-Fort Collins trip that probably will meander through Estes Park but surely not too close to those damaged areas from the High Park Fire of last June. Then back into Denver for the usual grand finale.

Sorry, but the USA Pro Challenge appears to have contracted a case of snooty, vainglorious conceit. So what if Grand Junction offered 700 reasonably priced hotel rooms, a possible route through the Colorado National Monument and a kickoff festival similar to what our city put on in 2011? Who cares if Colorado Springs had yet another brilliant idea to provide a different, scenic stage climax?

Forget the Springs organizers' monumental performance, amid the relief effort after the Waldo Canyon Fire, to galvanize the city and produce a remarkable circuit finish in and around downtown just four short months ago — creating arguably the USA Pro Challenge's most dramatic moment.

*Oh, thanks for that idea, Colorado Springs. Now we'll just use it for our opening stage in Aspen and Snowmass. Who knows, maybe **Kevin Costner**, **Michelle Pfeiffer** and **Jerry Seinfeld** will be there. They do have places in Aspen, you know. Then maybe we can have circuits in Denver. It'll be just swell.*

The race leaders know they're indebted to Colorado Springs. Think back to 2011, when the inaugural prologue from Garden of the Gods to downtown provided a visual spectacle for the worldwide TV audience, and the local cycling community filled an entire week with related events. And this past August, when thousands converged on downtown and Tejon Street became an impromptu stadium. The race's bigwigs were there, visiting our version of a VIP area. No famous movie stars, just real people willing to pay for a front-row view of the celebration.

Hell yes, we deserved better. Colorado Springs had so much to do with the USA Pro Challenge becoming so hot so quickly. All those volunteers, all those sponsors, all those commitments. For all that, pushing so hard even after such a destructive, historic fire, now we're outsiders.

It's not right. No matter what anybody says — or doesn't say.

***— routon@csindy.com***

# RangerRich

By Rich Tosches

## New laws for the city

There's nothing sadder than watching a guy who seems a little bit odd begging for money, hand outstretched, sometimes holding a sign, the deep age lines on his face and the desperation in his eyes tugging at your heart.

But enough about Mayor **Steve Bach** raising money for his campaign a few years ago.

We're talking today about a federal court judge in Denver striking down our village's brilliant plan to ban poor people from asking for spare change in the downtown area. Frankly, if I wanted angry-looking, unpleasant people shaking me down for every last penny in my pocket, I'd walk into the Colorado Springs Utilities office holding my bill.

Seriously, our mayor and City Council thought the panhandling ban was a great idea, pointing out that if homeless people didn't spend all day asking for money, they'd have time for more positive activities — such as shivering.

Because the process involved a lot of lawyers, all seeking to pad their billable hours, and a judicial system still reeling from that **O.J. Simpson** verdict, this is how the ruling went: The new city law was not overturned and officially has gone into effect. The federal injunction, however, prohibits enforcement.

This is like owning a pit bull with no teeth, or being attacked by bees that don't have stingers.

The ban, the judge ruled, violates the First Amendment, which prohibits the "quartering of soldiers." Unless you own a bar named Rum Bay and it's 2 a.m. on Saturday and 6,000 soldiers are passed out on the floor.

**This is like owning a pit bull with no teeth.**

Oops. That's the Third Amendment.

The First Amendment "protects the freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of the press, as well as the right to assemble and petition the government."

(The lesser-known 18th Amendment allows us to keep goats as pets "as long as they have never been ridden.")

Anyway, as our village determines its next steps, Bach and our big-hearted Council will seek to implement other new regulations inside a 12-block area of downtown, including:

• Laughter of children will be prohibited on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

• On Wednesdays and Thursdays, no "knock-knock" jokes or any attempts at humor that start with, "There once was a girl from Nantucket ..." will be allowed.

• A personal pet peeve of Mayor Bach will be addressed with a Saturday and Sunday ban on men in their 70s appearing in public with gray hair.

• After 4 p.m. daily, pets may not be dressed in clothing including doggie Christmas sweaters, jogging outfits or tiny little band uniforms unless there is a hole in the pants so the tail can stick out.

• Between 9 a.m. and noon daily, tall people may not use the crosswalks.

• After 1 p.m. on alternating days, excluding weekends, people named Dave, Eleanor, James or "Tappy" must walk into the wind.

• With the exception of Sundays between 2 and 4 p.m., it will be legal to throw a homeless person into traffic to see if drivers will stop.

• Women may not walk within 500 feet of the El Paso Club. First-time violators will be given the loud verbal warning, "Don't you have cookies to bake or a room to vacuum?" A second infraction will bring the loss of voting rights.

• On weekdays, the only public greeting allowed is, "Hey there, how are you? And the kids?" Banned in the 12-block area are, "How's it hanging?" "Still shakin' that thang?" and "Whoa, **Martha**! Last time I saw a rack like that, it was on an elk."

• City Councilman **Bernie Herpin**, who says having a stranger ask you for money violates your right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," shall not be considered a kook or goof on Thursdays between 3 and 6 p.m.

• And City Attorney **Chris Melcher**, whose old job at Colorado College was disappearing because of budget issues, shall be allowed, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays, to scrape the CC bumper or window sticker off your car with an ax.

*Rich Tosches (rangerrich@csindy.com) also writes a Sunday column in the* **Denver Post.**

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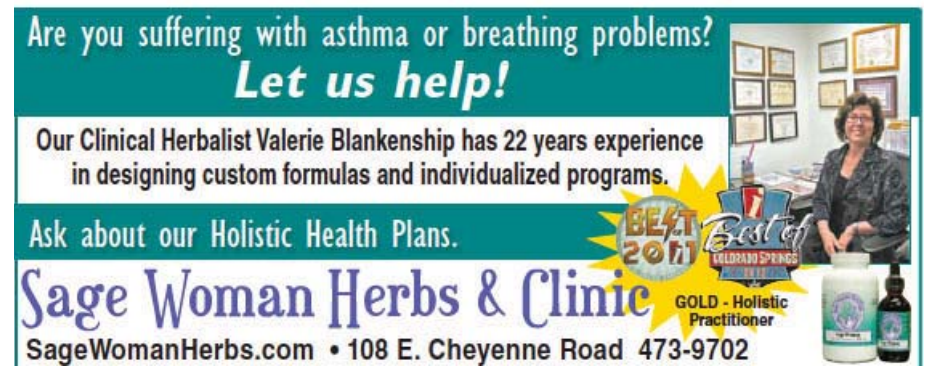
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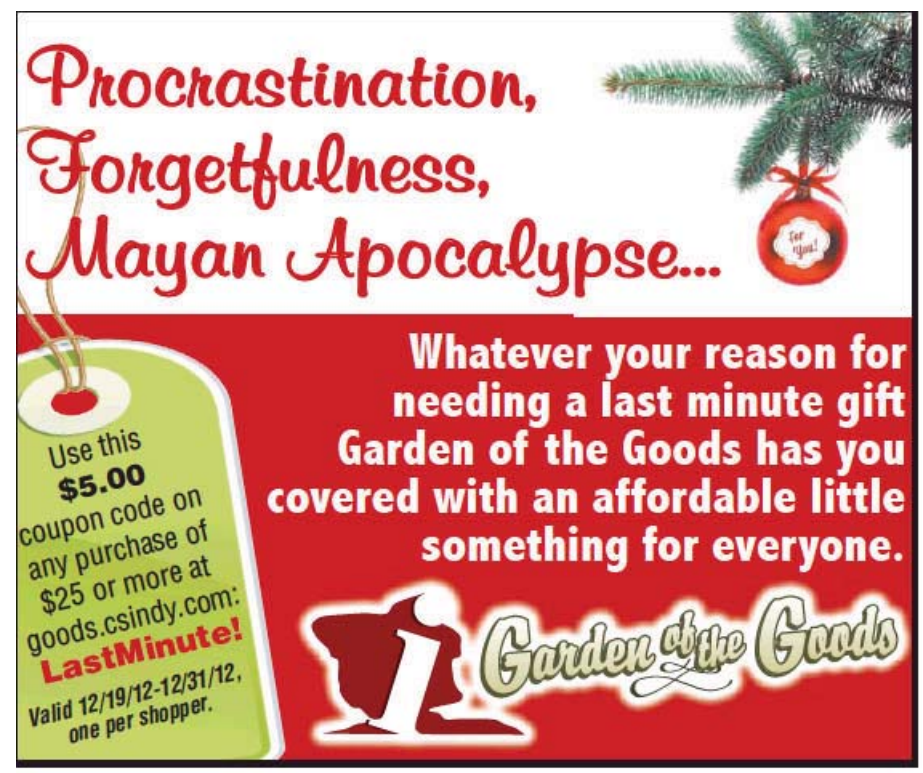
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